Daily Report

Latin America

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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An Ω indicates a Foreign Media Note.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Baena Soares Addresses OAS Assembly *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 1
Chile Wants OAS To Exclude Bolivian Sea Claim *[Madrid EFE]* 2
Brazil's Franco Meets, Backs Haiti's Aristide *[Brasilia Radio]* 2
Latin America To Form Counternarcotics Group *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 2

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Border Guards Deny Attack on Refugee Vessel *[NOTIMEX]* 3
Police Tighten Security Near Diplomatic Missions *[AFP]* 3
Minint Workers Cited for Efforts To Halt Emigration *[Havana Radio]* 3
Commentary Views U.S. D-Day Celebration *[Havana TV]* 3
Robaina, Qatari Officials Review Cooperation *[Havana Radio]* 4
Mexican Official Confirms 'Solidaristic' Ties *[Havana Radio]* 4
Minister on Need for Research Funds, Support *[Havana Radio]* 4
Explosion Reported at Scientific Center *[Havana Radio]* 5
Minister Criticizes Farmers for Not Selling to State *[NOTIMEX]* 6
Camaguey Province Resumes Sugarcane Harvest *[Havana Radio]* 6
ANPP Official Discusses Santiago Energy Situation *[Havana Radio]* 6
Interior Ministry Celebrates 33d Anniversary *[Havana Radio]* 7
Commentary Salutes Minint Anniversary *[Havana Radio]* 7
TRABAJADORES Reviews Subsidy Elimination *[Havana Radio]* 8
Roundup of Economic Developments *[Havana Radio]* 8

Dominican Republic

Foreign Secretary Vows Haitian Border Closed *[Madrid EFE]* 9

Haiti

Jonassaint Government Urges Anti-Invasion Measures *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 9
Forms National Crisis Commission *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 10
Malval: Haitians Will 'Welcome' Intervention *[AFP]* 10
Criticizes Cedras *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 10
Turks and Caicos Islands Agree To Receive Refugees *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 11

CENTRAL AMERICA

Guatemala

President Reiterates Support for ROC's UN Bid *[Taipei CNA]* 12

Honduras

Reina Distressed Over More Drastic Measures Against Haiti *[LA TRIBUNA 4 Jun]* 12
Oil Companies Threaten To Discontinue Imports *[EL PERIODICO DE HONDURAS 4 Jun]* 12

Nicaragua

Chamorro 'Putting Off' Decision on Haitian Refugees *[EL NUEVO DIARIO 5 Jun]* 13
Efforts on Confiscated Property Issue Viewed *[Managua Radio]* 14

Rightist Groups Challenge Proposed Military Law *[Managua Radio]* 14
Argentina, Nicaragua Sign Cooperation Memorandum *[LA PRENSA 4 June]* 14

Panama

Endara To Announce Amnesty for Former Officials *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 6 Jun]* 15
Report: Endara May Withdraw Draft of Reform Bill *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 6 Jun]* 15
Commission Formed To Study Entry of Haitians *[EL SIGLO 6 Jun]* 16
Building Used by Managua Mission To Be Returned *[EL SIGLO 6 Jun]* 16

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Menem Confirms Duhalde as Running Mate *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 17
Duhalde Willing To Run on Ticket *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 17
Metal Workers Union Reaches Accord With Industry *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 17

Bolivia

Armed Forces Commander Rules Out Possible Coup *[PRESENCIA 31 May]* 17

Brazil

'Largest Drug Seizure Ever Made in Brazil' Reported *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 18
Army Concerned Over Landless People's Movement *[AGENCIA ESTADO]* 18
Only 3 State-Owned Companies' Officials Dismissed *[AGENCIA ESTADO]* 19
Franco To Open 24th OAS General Assembly in Belem *[Brasilia Radio]* 19
Chilean Minister on Joining Mercosur *[Brasilia Radio]* 19
Electoral, Economic Objectives of Real Viewed *[ISTOE 18 May]* 20
Lula Campaign Aims To Strengthen Lead in Polls *[AGENCIA ESTADO]* 21
Lula Outlines Foreign Policies *[CLARIN 5 Jun]* 22
Campaign, Program Coordinators Profiled *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 2 May]* 23
Russia Signs Accord To Exchange Military Attaches *[Brasilia Radio]* 25
Correction to Former Peasant Leader Views Land Problems 26

Colombia

Former Candidate Backs Samper in Runoff *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 26
Commissioner Admits Police Violate Human Rights *[AFP]* 26

Paraguay

Foreign Minister Meets Argentine Over Dam Incident *[ABC COLOR 4 Jun]* 26
Congressional Committee To Investigate Oviedo *[ULTIMA HORA 6 Jun]* 27
Fernandez To Campaign for ANR Party Presidency *[ULTIMA HORA 4 Jun]* 27

Peru

Polls Predict Fujimori, Perez de Cuellar Tie *[Madrid EFE]* 28
Shining Path Attempts To Murder Former President *[Madrid EFE]* 28
Police Arrest Ayacucho Shining Path Leader *[Lima Radio]* 28
Air Force Commander Resigns; Replacement Named *[Madrid EFE]* 28

Uruguay

Abreu To Sign Salto Grande Protocols *[LA MANANA 3 Jun]* 29

Venezuela

Governor Threatens To Use Military Against Strike *[Caracas Radio]* 29

Baena Soares Addresses OAS Assembly

FY0606173594 Rio de Janeiro TVE Television in Portuguese 1335 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Speech by OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares at the opening ceremony of the 24th OAS General Assembly at the Peace Theater, Belem, Para State—live]

[Excerpts] Your Excellency Mr. Brazilian President, Your Excellency Mr. Haitian President, Your Excellency Mr. Brazilian Foreign Minister, Your Excellencies Messrs. Foreign Ministers and heads of delegations, Your Excellencies Messrs. Ministers, Your Excellency Para State Governor, my friends:

Your Excellency's presence at this opening ceremony honors us and fills us with pride. We realize that your gesture, for which we thank you very much, represents Brazil's confidence in the OAS' actions and destiny. It also represents the brotherly welcome of the Brazilian Government and people to the illustrious representatives of the American continent countries gathered here. [passage omitted]

I also want to thank Mr. Brazilian Foreign Minister Ambassador Celso Amorim, who is my friend, for his permanent and longlasting interest for, support of, and collaboration with the OAS' work, which has culminated with the preparations for this OAS General Assembly. [passage omitted]

Now, it is time for democracy. The last 10 years in the Americas have marked a time of political progress, restoration of peace, economic readjustments, and the beginning of an economic recovery. These processes, however, have been accompanied by an ever-increasing social dissatisfaction and unrest resulting from persistent inequalities and increasing poverty. Tough obstacles have been overcome but dramatic challenges must still be faced.

The peoples of this hemisphere have performed a prodigious institutional reform. This reform must now have the economic and social conditions to become stable and improved. To preserve and increase the participation of the people in the democratic process, we now must rescue and make a reality the humanistic concept of overall development adopted by the OAS. It is not enough to grow. Countries must grow to correct unfairness and neutralize frustrations and hopelessness that limit and threaten the exercise of democracy. [passage omitted]

It is true that ideological confrontation has given way to unexpected opportunities of understanding and cooperation between antagonistic groups. Disputes and conflicts of a nonideological nature, however, have appeared or reappeared. They are historic, cultural, racial, and tribal. The international system has yet to discover its new configuration because it is conditioned by the interaction of state-disintegrating forces and associative forces that create economic spaces that shelter political integration tendencies. Meanwhile, our region—the most peaceful in the world despite some episodes of violence—has given examples of its capacity to respond and act dynamically. The American states have updated the inter-American system. From 1985 to 1994, from Cartagena de Indias to Mexico City, the OAS has been transformed. I know of no other international organization to adapt and transform itself so profoundly and in such a short period of time. I know of no other organization to readjust so consistently its own nature, purposes, and basic principles. Ten years ago in Brasilia, we defended the idea of reinvigorating confidence in the OAS. We considered it an indispensable condition for fulfilling its specific function of serving as a natural forum for the hemisphere's countries. This confidence has been restored and ensured by the member countries through a judicious and cooperative dialogue.

It is now the time for participation. I have the pleasure to point out the immediate and positive reaction of the member countries' governments to President Clinton's opportune invitation for a Summit of the Americas in December. For many years, there had not been such propitious conditions to promote a broad and creative exchange among the chiefs of state and government. I can see the OAS' effective presence in this occasion. Its organization and mechanisms can support the summit's preparation and cooperate in putting its results into practice.

Now is the time for dialogue. Interest in the OAS' performance, which was awakened at the national congresses held in the member countries, makes us think about ways of associating them more closely with our activities. The member countries' representativeness is, undoubtedly, ensured by their governments. It is appropriate, however, to think of situations in which delegates from the congresses of this hemisphere's countries can regularly gather to support this regional organization. This would be a step forward in the path already opened by the OAS secretariat general and the several congresses associated in regional and subregional groups. I believe this issue should be considered.

The OAS continues to be, above all, an expression of confidence in the importance of laws. It acts within the framework of the first principle contained in its charter, which I will now cite: International laws are a norm of behavior the states must adopt in their reciprocal relations. Respect for the laws is an essential ingredient of democracy. The implementation of this principal is the basis for domestic and international peace. Nothing contributes more to hemispheric security than respect for precepts resulting from a decision-making process of participatory qualities, particularly if it can harmonize different interests and balance asymmetrical forces. It is now the time for full respect for international laws.

The new conditions reigning in the hemisphere led the member countries to adopt bold and unprecedented decisions to defend and promote democracy. The instruments created for this objective have proven adequate, but the economic resources to ensure their implementation still are limited and cannot be accurately foreseen. I believe it is necessary to establish a special fund, independent of the

regular OAS budget, to finance the activities related to the consolidation of democracy in the hemisphere. This fund will allow an equitable distribution of the expenses resulting from these actions. [passage omitted]

It is now the time for solidarity. Belize, Canada, and Guyana have joined the OAS as full members in recent years. All sovereign countries in the hemisphere enjoy the same situation. Not all governments, however, participate in the common tasks. As everyone knows, I have been asking for some time whether it is the right time for the member countries to reexamine the decision they made more than 30 years ago to suspend the Cuban Government from OAS activities. The 1990's are different from the 1960's.

Mr. President, my farewell to this General Assembly is not an agreement for separation but a pact for presence. There is a time to arrive and a time to leave, but one's entire life is the time to work. I will not abandon my ties, solidarity, and commitment toward liberty, democracy, justice, laws, and peace that mark the dreams of all of us.

Messrs. Foreign Ministers and heads of delegations, please allow me to address these final words to my fellow countrymen and the people of my state. I convey to them my most tender greetings and my most profound thanks. I have lived in many distant countries during my professional life. The memories and love of my people have always been a strengthening factor in adversity and a joy in the happy moments. Thank you very much.

Chile Wants OAS To Exclude Bolivian Sea Claim

PY0606165894 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1433 GMT 4 Jun 94

[Text] Santiago, 4 Jun (EFE)—Chile will request that the Bolivian sea coast claim not be included in the 24th OAS General Assembly, which opens in Belem de Para (Brazil) on 6 June. This request is listed in point 15 of the issues to be discussed during the foreign ministers' meeting, entitled "Report on the Bolivian Maritime Problem."

According to some sources, the Chilean position on the Bolivian claim of a maritime outlet through the Chilean coast is an issue that should be discussed by the two countries and is not a multilateral issue for discussion in an international meeting.

According to the local press, the Chilean Government believes there are no pending conflicts with Bolivia, with which Chile has maintained consular relations since 1978.

The Chilean delegation to the OAS will be headed by Chilean Foreign Minister Carlos Figueroa, who left for Brazil on 4 June. Figueroa will then leave for an official visit to Argentina on 8 June.

The Chilean press said the Bolivian claim for a sea outlet to the Pacific is one of the recurrent issues submitted to the OAS Assembly. Bolivia lost its sovereign sea coast after the 1879 Pacific War, which it fought with Peru against Chile.

Brazil's Franco Meets, Backs Haiti's Aristide

PY0706003394 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Report by Luiz Augusto Mendonca in Belem, Para State]

[Excerpts] Today, here, President Itamar Franco opened the 24th OAS General Assembly. He advocated strengthening the OAS as a political and diplomatic forum dedicated to finding peaceful, negotiated settlements to the issues affecting the 34 OAS member countries. [passage omitted]

This afternoon, Franco held a private meeting with ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who came to Belem to ask the Brazilian Government to support his reinstatement as Haitian president. Franco reaffirmed his support for Aristide, and once again condemned all totalitarian regimes.

Later tonight, Franco will host a dinner at the Para State Assembly club for the foreign delegates who are attending the OAS meeting.

Latin America To Form Counternarcotics Group

PA0606221394 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Jun 94

[From the "Cripton Newscast"]

[Text] Latin American narcotics chiefs agreed to create an organization to fight the scourge of drug trafficking, which is increasingly more interconnected with another illegal business: gunrunning from Europe to Latin America. The decision was adopted at a meeting in the Dominican Republic. Here is a report by Chelo Garcia:

[Begin recording] [Garcia] There is concern that the ties between Latin American drug traffickers and gunrunners are getting increasingly closer. They work in teams and support each other. Sophisticated long- and short-range weapons of every caliber, mostly from Europe, are flooding Latin American black markets. The Latin American narcotics chiefs decided to make efforts to break this deadly alliance during the drug summit held in the Dominican Republic.

[Colombian counternarcotics chief Colonel Leonardo Gallego] The most important things were the plans for new methods and means to strengthen this struggle against drug trafficking.

[Garcia] It was also proposed at the drug summit that the Latin American countries form a single bloc of support to control drug cultivation, production, processing, and trafficking. They will also work shoulder to shoulder to prevent the use of aircraft, vessels, and ground transportation to supply materials that Latin American drug traffickers need to produce drugs. [end recording]

Cuba

Border Guards Deny Attack on Refugee Vessel

PA0606202294 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1820 GMT 6 May 94

[Text] Havana, 6 Jun (NOTIMEX)—The Cuban Border Guards Unit refrained from attacking a vessel on which 61 persons fled the island last weekend, a government source said today.

The guards, who had sighted minors aboard, limited themselves to escorting the vessel until it had left Cuban jurisdictional waters.

The U.S. Coast Guard rescued the vessel on Saturday in international waters off the Florida Keys; there were seven wounded aboard. The Cuban Foreign Ministry refused to comment on the incident.

Police Tighten Security Near Diplomatic Missions

PA0706015094 Paris AFP in Spanish 0048 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Text] Havana, 6 Jun (AFP)—The Cuban Police have tightened security around several diplomatic missions and residences in Havana, while 124 Cubans continue to occupy the residence of the Belgian ambassador hoping to obtain political asylum.

Security has been beefed up, particularly around the Argentine Embassy, some 100 meters from the Belgian residence, in Miramar District (western Havana). A special brigade truck and two patrol vehicles are blocking the street by the mission. Also, dozens of security guards, some armed with AK-47 rifles, were seen guarding the area for the first time since the beginning of the crisis. The intense deployment apparently is due to rumors of the imminent departure of would-be emigres to Argentine diplomatic missions.

The situation appeared to be at a standstill in the Belgian residence, which has been occupied for 10 days by 68 men, 32 women, and 24 children. Belgian and Cuban representatives have been in daily contact, while Belgian special envoy Willy Verriest is intent on trying to convince the refugees to leave the building.

Minint Workers Cited for Efforts To Halt Emigration

FL0706022294 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Commentary by Fernando Davalos titled: "Our Homage"]

[Text] Good evening. Today, our words are dedicated to several sectors of the national life, whose commemorations we have observed. First, I do not want to forget that today, 6 June, is the 33d anniversary of the creation of the Interior Ministry [Minint], one of the most active fronts at this current juncture of the fatherland, the most active sector against crime and those who wish to threaten national security. I extend my respect and admiration to these honorable men and women.

Comrades, our people are perfectly aware of the conscientiousness and morality with which you conduct your work in the midst of enemy lies and the barrage of hostile propaganda. Our people are aware of how treacherous is the lie abroad that distorts the impeccable attitude of even the last man of the Minint in the midst of very difficult conditions and against totally amoral people.

We constantly witness the committed endeavors of the Minint workers to confront crime, which has strategically sided with the enemy. Yet, this is to no avail with those people who take women and children as hostages in their petty personal desires to emigrate. Leaving Cuba does not condemn them; what does is that they do not hesitate to use violence, trickery, theft, lies, and unlawfulness to do so. Our people clearly understand this struggle and this is why they admire and support you because the people recognize your bravery and the need to maintain order and confront those who attempt to make chaos and crime the rule.

Other sectors are also observing important dates. The day after tomorrow is Legal Workers's Day—lawyers and judges, clerks and prosecutors, registry workers, notaries, and lawyers' office workers. To them, we also extend our respect and hopes of seeing their efficiency increase in the fight against crime and illegality.

There are other important dates. There is also the Library or Librarians' Day; friends who are many times not recognized given the urgency of the other problems we face. We find libraries and librarians at every level of our school system, and in the cities, with their supply of information and culture ready for our work or leisure—a book, magazine, pamphlet, map, data, math tables, a name, a dictionary, the title of a book, or a foreign tale, anything. A thousand things that we need to know and for which we have to consult libraries and librarians. We know that nowadays these institutions face many difficulties, given the shortage of resources, and perhaps some might have closed their doors. These are transitory problems, however. Libraries continue to survive despite it all, and their wealth of knowledge is at our disposal. There is nothing more fair or well deserved than extending to them our respectful salute.

Commentary Views U.S. D-Day Celebration

FL0706020594 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Jun 94

[Report by Irma Caceres]

[Text] The U.S. Government has given top priority to the 50th anniversary of D-Day, which marked the opening of the second European front against the Germans in World War II, or so President William Clinton has demonstrated.

It would seem that the White House is seeking to restore the Americans' role in military operations abroad or otherwise strengthen the continuity of this policy, which is such a sensitive issue for the current Democratic administration, given the cases of Bosnia, Somalia, and perhaps Haiti.

U.S. troops landed on the French coast of Normandy on 6 June 1944 when the forces of the former USSR had already defeated the German Empire. Military experts' opinions on this event differ broadly. Many consider the opening of the second front an action belated by at least two years, when the strategic initiative was in the hands of the Soviets, who had paid a high price in material losses and lives.

Others agree that the actual prospect of a German defeat at Soviet hands and a future change in the correlation of forces was undoubtedly the factor that determined the opening of the second front. This allowed the United States, at the end of the war and without having contributed much, to actively participate in the division of the spoils and the theft of minds.

Robaina, Qatari Officials Review Cooperation

FL0606210894 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Report by Froylan Arancibia, from Qatar, for "National Radio News"]

[Text] Today, Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina met with Defense Minister Prince Muhammad bin Khalifa Al Thani, to whom he delivered a message from Cuban President Fidel Castro.

According to Cuban delegation sources, Robaina and His Highness Al Thani spoke for more than 30 minutes in a positive atmosphere, consistent with the signs of hospitality and respect shown the delegation throughout its stay here.

The two officials exchanged views on the current status of bilateral relations and agreed that both governments have an interest in finding ways to increase and develop these relations. The Cuban official expressed his country's interest in developing cooperation in areas that have already been identified, including health, medical products, and tourism, as well as in other areas where equal opportunities and possibilities for investment exist.

Moreover, Prince Al Thani reasserted his country's determination to maintain independent relations with Cuba, based on respect for each country's sovereignty and the freedom to choose its own means of social development. Likewise, he said he is aware of the situation on the island, and pledged to sponsor the visit of a business delegation to Havana within the next few weeks.

The Cuban foreign minister also met today with Health Minister Sheik Hamad bin Sukhaym, who stated his willingness to hire Cuban health personnel and purchase biopharmaceutical industry products for their registration and use in Qatar.

A meeting was held with the minister of finance, economy, and trade at noon. Bilateral talks at the Foreign Ministry are scheduled to begin this afternoon, shortly before the departure to Havana.

Mexican Official Confirms 'Solidaristic' Ties

PA0606173994 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 1300 GMT 6 Jun 94

[From the "Morning Information Review" newscast]

[Text] Jorge Pinto Mazal, Mexican undersecretary of foreign affairs for Latin America and the Caribbean, has said that ties between Mexico and Cuba are consistent, solidaristic, and [word indistinct].

In statements to the Mexico City press, Pinto Mazal said the Mexican Government has maintained a very close relationship with Cuba throughout its history, not only because we have very close borders, but also because we have ties of friendship and affection between our two peoples.

Pinto Mazal also said that Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari will visit Cuba soon, for the purpose of maintaining very open and fluid bilateral relations. According to Mexican Foreign Secretariat sources, Salinas' visit is scheduled for 13 June.

Minister on Need for Research Funds, Support

FL0606153894 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Report by Demetrio Villa Urrutia from Cartagena for the "Doing Radio" newscast]

[Excerpts] The 10-person Cuban delegation that will handle the Ibero- American summit on 14-15 June arrived in Cartagena 48 hours ago. [passage omitted]

The first official activity before the Ibero-American summit concluded this weekend; it was the scientific conference on sustainable development. Our chief representative was Dr. Rosa Elena Simeon Negrin, minister of science, technology, and environment.

The conference mainly sought to review the formation of human resources, financing, and the ways to prepare Latin America for the area's integration. Precisely the issues of integration, economy, and trade will be the main issues to be discussed in this fourth version of the Ibero-American summit. [passage omited]

Shortly before her departure, Comrade Rosa Elena Simeon made some statements to the Cuban media

delegation, which is here to assess the event and its topics. Here is a small fragment of Comrade Rosa Elena Simeon's statement:

[Begin Simeon recording] Emphasis has been placed on something throughout the debate and the three roundtables: Research work must be guaranteed sustained financing. What do we call sustained financing per se? We mean it must have continuity. That is the experience in our country, which today invests $25 per inhabitant. The revolution has made an extraordinary effort in the formation of human resources throughout the history of the revolution and today we can enjoy the results. You cannot invest in the research sector and then fail to give it continuity. That investment is not recovered in the short term. This entails medium term and long term investments. [end recording]

Explosion Reported at Scientific Center

FL0606182394 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Jun 94

[From the "National Radio News"]

[Text] On Sunday, an explosion occurred in the area of the No. 2 plant at one of the PPG [anti-cholesterol agent] production complexes. A commission created for this purpose is currently investigating the causes of this incident.

The commandos of La Coronela and the No. 8 Unit of the Minint [Interior Ministry] National Fire Prevention and Extinguishing Directorate were the first to arrive following the emergency which occurred at 1100 on Sunday at the No. 2 plant of Western Scientific Center.

The determined participation of the young firemen prevented the fire from spreading. Emilio Gomez Hernandez, a delegate of the 95th Sector of the Fifth Arroyo Arenas Council, also played an important and courageous role. Eva Alvarez arrived immediately and was able to interview him.

[Begin recording] [Alvarez] What did you do when you heard the explosion?

[Gomez] I was in the yard. I quickly evacuated the personnel over to the river, as we have been instructed to do.

[Alvarez] In which yard were you?

[Gomez] In my back yard. I was going into the house, coming from the backyard.

[Alvarez] Do you live across the street?

[Gomez] I live exactly across the street from the plant. When I heard the explosion I looked up and saw red flames. I thought it was an air raid or a bomb. Then I quickly... [pauses] I expected another explosion so I quickly evacuated the personnel across the river. I mean all the personnel in the area.

[Alvarez] And the neighbors.

[Gomez] And the neighbors. There are 18 houses in the area. I evacuated them toward the river. Then I quickly ran over to the plant [words indistinct].

[Alvarez] What did you do at the plant?

[Gomez] I tried to close the valves, meaning the boiler's valves.

[Alvarez] Do you know about that?

[Gomez] Yes, I know where they are because I have been here with them. There are three valves at the plant.

[Alvarez] The plant where the accident occurred?

[Gomez] Yes, the plant where the accident occurred. Then I checked this side and had someone close down the street which leads to the freeway and the street which leads to Lazaro Pena.

[Alvarez] To facilitate the firemen's arrival?

[Gomez] To facilitate the firemen's arrival and to keep public transit vehicles away. Then I checked the neighborhood in case someone had been injured. That is what we did.

[Alvarez] Did you have anything to do with the injured comrades?

[Gomez] No.

[Alvarez] Did they sustain minor injuries?

[Gomez] Yes.

[Alvarez] I understand nine of them sustained injuries but were able to walk.

[Gomez] I saw when they left and they were able to walk. That is what I saw.

[Alvarez] Then you made sure the valves were secure.

[Gomez] I secured the vales and the neighborhood, afraid another explosion would occur. In other words, everyone in the neighborhood was led to the river. [end recording]

Emilio Gomez Hernandez surpassed his responsibility as a delegate. He evacuated the neighbors and, thanks to his knowledge about the plant, he was able to close the valves connected to the boilers—despite a shower of glass which threatened his own life. This man, a retired officer from the explosives team, honored the motto of the Minint, which today marks its 33rd anniversary—our strength is the people's strength.

Minister Criticizes Farmers for Not Selling to State

PA0706043994 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2254 GMT 31 May 94

[Text] Havana, 31 May (NOTIMEX)—Cuban Agriculture Minister Alfredo Jordan today criticized the country's private farmers for failing to sell produce to the state, and he announced the government will take steps to resolve the problem.

At a meeting in western Matanzas Province, Minister Jordan, who is a member of the Politburo of the ruling Communist Party of Cuba, said the state will impose a tax on "fallow lands" to force private rural landowners to produce. He said, "We must make demands on those who fail to comply and, if necessary, apply the penalties prescribed by the Agrarian Law without fail."

In the first admission by a public official of the farmers' reluctance to sell crops to the state, Jordan said, "There are landowners who have not delivered even one quintal of agricultural products over the course of the year; this is totally unacceptable."

The official demanded that private farmers who control 20 percent of the country's arable land comply with their obligation to sell crops to the so-called collection centers that are in charge of marketing for the state. "Feeding the people is a sacred task, and those who possess land and make production commitments through agreements with the state must fulfill their obligations," Jordan insisted.

The minister's warning coincided with the publication in the official press of reports regarding a drop in the production of tubers and vegetables in 1993. Many private farmers prefer to sell their crops to middlemen or consumers who visit the rural areas on weekends to buy provisions at prices higher than the official price.

"There are farmers who do not sell their crops to the state's collection centers and who seek to enrich themselves by other means," said the weekly newspaper TRABAJADORES, the mouthpiece of the unions. The weekly said that in 1993, the production of various crops, including vegetables and tubers, dropped 77 percent in comparison to the 1992 crop, and this was made evident by empty stores in Havana.

According to the source, the volume of agricultural production by the cooperative-peasant and state sectors declined, and the ensuing deficit has led to a reduction in other related crops.

Private farmers produce 35 percent of the country's total agricultural production, producing more than the state in crops such as coffee, tobacco, tomatoes, onions, garlic, green peppers, and carrots.

In terms of land distribution, from September onward state agriculture has been reorganized into basic units of cooperative production which are managed by experienced farmworkers. These units control some 80 percent of the island's arable land.

Following the two agrarian reform programs implemented in the sixties, there are some 200,000 registered private farmers affiliated with the National Association of Small Farmers. As a group, these private farmers own more than 865,000 hectares of land, which are distributed among 2,260 farming cooperatives.

Some 125,000 farmers refused to pool their land together but maintain a certain level of cooperation through "credit and services cooperatives."

Private rural farmers had sold their products at the so-called "farmer's free markets" which flourished up until 1986, when the government ordered them closed to avoid "excessive enrichment."

Camaguey Province Resumes Sugarcane Harvest

FL0606163894 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1640 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Report by Manuel Cano Iglesias from Camaguey Province for the "Doing Radio" newscast]

[Text] We would like to report the sugar harvest resumed in Camaguey Province when the Noel Fernandez Central's machinery was started in Minas Municipality. The central's mills were started after the recent torrential and extended rains. The central will also receive raw material from areas around the Brazil and Sierra de Cubitas Centrals, and zones where the rain has not delayed the harvest so much.

Within the strategy, work is also underway in complexes located in the central and southern part of the province. Some of them will thus participate in the mill work by receiving sugarcane from their own areas and from neighboring areas. Within the principle of cutting sugarcane wherever possible and sending it to whichever central can mill it, Camaguey sugarcane workers have resumed the harvest operations because they are aware of the importance of contributing as much as they can for the country's economy.

ANPP Official Discusses Santiago Energy Situation

FL0606165794 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Jun 94

[Text] Jaime Crombet, vice president of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], has described Santiago de Cuba's overall energy situation as positive. The thorough repairs conducted at the Rente Electric Plant, which has already reached an output of 315 megawatts or 45 percent of its capacity and has resulted in a significant reduction in power outages, deserve to be described as such.

Crombet was told that electricity generation in the province will reach 75 percent capacity and be more reliable after December. Crombet warned of the adverse effect of increasing fraud among consumers who, as a result of the increase in electric fees, return to new ways to receive electricity illegally. Crombet called for a widespread campaign, beginning today and continuing until September, against citizens receiving electricity through illegal hookups and lines, mills, and other methods. Crombet added that is necessary for everyone using electricity to pay for it.

Crombet also called for adopting measures to solve the problem of burned out transformers plaguing Santiago de Cuba, due to voltage shifts caused by some self-employed workers using electrical equipment in their small workshops. Crombet praised the provincial boilers efficiency program, which has attained efficiency in 115 of the 274 boilers available; developments in biogas production; and developments in hydroelectric power with 34 such small plants in operation, along with the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes Dam, which will generate 2.8 megawatt-hours—enough to supply almost the entire city of Contramaestre.

Interior Ministry Celebrates 33d Anniversary

FL0706005194

[Editorial Report] The following is a roundup of reports on noteworthy events and commentary marking the 33d anniversary of the Interior Ministry (Minint), monitored from Havana Radio in Spanish on 6 June.

Orlando Contreras delivers an "Our Opinion" commentary on the anniversary, hailing the Minint for playing a leading role in the fight against crime. Contreras congratulates Minint employees for achieving success with the people's support. (Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 6 June 94)

The announcer of the "Doing Radio" newscast says the station wishes "to congratulate, very early on this beautiful Monday morning, our Minint fighters, who today celebrate their 33d anniversary." Later in the cast, the announcer says: "We love our Minint comrades, who today celebrate their 33d anniversary. They certainly have a right to celebrate!" (Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 6 June 94)

The announcer of the "First Thing" newscast sends "special greetings, very special greetings, to the Minint forces, who are celebrating their 33d anniversary today. Therefore, our greetings to all those, who in one way or another, work in or have something to do with the foundation and creation of the corps." (Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 June 94)

The "Doing Radio" newscast features the participation of two members of the Jose Marti Pioneers, who "salute and congratulate" all the Minint members, "particularly those who work in the traffic-accident prevention and security departments" and "prevent traffic accidents, which cause so many deaths, injuries, and damage in the country." They reassert that, upon celebrating their anniversary at this crucial moment, Minint members "will aptly fulfill their duty as they have done on other occasions, when carrying out their missions. They have served our people for 33 years and we reassert our greetings. We urge them to continue to fulfill their duty." (Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 6 June 94)

Journalist Fernando Sanchez reports from Ciego de Avila Province that "events on this anniversary have been extensive and varied in this territory," including a mass wedding in which the 14 people who got married are Minint members, "meaning they have double ties—duty and love." The report indicates the newlyweds took a wreath to the Jose Marti monument in Ciego de Avila's capital. Also, local "Minint Commander Colonel Miguel Leiva Rangel presided over the festivities and awarded promotions and distinguished service medals." (Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 6 June 94)

Journalist Teresa Valenzuela interviews people on the street, who comment on the Minint anniversary. One says he has always "supported the special Minint brigade because it deals with the enemy and criminals on the street." Another says he admires "their determination and courage when facing any criminal. They act with decisiveness and are confident about the work they carry out." A third one says we has "a high opinion of the Minint comrades, taking into consideration that their work is always full of danger and difficulties. It is truly a corps that serves the people." The last person emphasizes that "the Minint anniversary is not something you celebrate only with the Minint members; it is an anniversary to celebrate with all the people." (Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 June 94)

Commentary Salutes Minint Anniversary

FL0606163794 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish GMT 94

["Our Opinion" commentary by Orlando Contreras from the "Doing Radio" newscast]

[Text] The 33d anniversary of the founding of the Interior Ministry [Minint] is being celebrated today. The "Doing Radio" newscast sends all its self-sacrificing fighters its most fraternal greetings.

The revolution has waged a constant struggle against those who have tried to crush the achievements of this process throughout three decades; and, within that struggle, the Minint fighters have played a role that deserves full recognition. Tasks which deal with the prevention of crime and repression of activities which conspire against the security, integrity, and assets of the people and the citizens represent difficult, self-sacrificing work that entails sacrifices, total dedication, and—many times—serious risks because many Minint fighters have lost their lives in the line of duty.

These tasks require honest men because nothing is more damaging than the abuse of power or the use of that authority with intentions other than those granted by the revolution and the law to the organizations and the men who serve it. Minint fighters have achieved success in their tasks because they have had the people's full support. In a revolution like ours, the repression of criminal activities, whatever their nature, always has the people's support. This is one of the keys of the Minint fighters' success in their various activities.

Today, when we mark the foundation of the Minint, which was formed with a nucleus of men from the rebel army and clandestine groups, "Doing Radio" joins the people in greeting those fighters with strong principles, convictions, and determination to serve the people, which is the source of their authority.

TRABAJADORES Reviews Subsidy Elimination

FL0606213894 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Jun 94

[From the "National Radio News"]

[Text] Today's morning newspaper TRABAJADORES published an editorial on page two under the title, "The Elimination of Subsidies to Workers Cafeterias." We offer a synopsis of the text:

The revolutionary government's agreement, which states that workers' cafeterias will cover costs with their own income, will become effective 1 July. The deadline may be extended until 31 August, based on exceptions for justifiable cases, to guarantee better implementation of the measure.

The newspaper TRABAJADORES also stated in today's edition that it is therefore necessary to consider this measure closely linked with the efforts exerted [as heard] so that no cafeteria closes, which would be a severe blow to the workers and revolutionaries, wherever it occurs. Quite the contrary, the goal is to make the measure, in an effort to improve the product's quality, into a challenge—even motivation—during these difficult conditions in which a salary proves insufficient to fulfill this need.

The newspaper then says the main idea on which to concentrate is that the government's measure strives to make cafeterias feasible—that is, self-sufficient. Those that produce a profit will be able to use it to improve their own product.

The TRABAJADORES editorial added: Another essential view is that once we know how much a cafeteria costs, we must struggle so its feasibility is the result of an improved product rather than a mechanical increase in prices.

The TRABAJADORES editorial concluded: To fulfill this measure, which affects us so directly, in an exemplary way, will prove the steadfastness with which the Cuban labor movement endorses the policy we have outlined, including the participation of all workers, and which our government now implements to overcome the crisis and come out well ahead, stronger, and victorious.

Roundup of Economic Developments

FL0606173994

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on Cuban economic developments monitored from Havana radio sources in Spanish between 30 May and 2 June:

Radio Reloj at 1949 GMT on 30 May reports that nearly 850 caballerias of sugarcane have been planted in Las Tunas Province as part of the spring planting plan, despite the recent intense rainfall.

Radio Rebelde at 1700 GMT on 31 May reports that two researchers at Comandante Ernesto Che Guevara nickel factory have developed a new method to reduce the filtering and drying procedure while increasing the quality of the nickel sulfur produced.

Radio Reloj at 0804 GMT on 31 May reports that nearly 10,900 caballerias have been weeded in Las Tunas Province as part of the 1994 sugarcane harvest efforts.

Radio Rebelde at 0900 GMT on 1 June reports that 1,023 low-cost houses have been built in Granma Province in 1994.

Radio Rebelde also reports that the (Chillinma) shipyard in Havana City has recently finished construction of three lobster boats to the Batabano Fishing Complex.

Radio Rebelde at 1155 GMT on 1 June reports that the (Input) factory, in Santa Clara City, has built its 100,000th bicycle.

Radio Rebelde also reports that in Las Tunas, the cost per patient for the 22 residents in a Jobabo municipal home for the elderly is 2.53 pesos daily, covering food and care only.

Radio Rebelde at 0900 GMT on 2 June reports that in Cienfuegos Municipality the municipal committee of the Communist Party of Cuba has called for a day of sugarcane planting and weeding at the Pepito Tey Complex. Jesus Rodriguez Diaz, provincial PCC first secretary, reported that only 75 caballerias had been weeded during May.

Radio Rebelde at 1700 GMT on 2 June reports that approximately 2,000 caballerias of tobacco will be planted, tended, and harvested with the aid of foreign capital. Spanish, Dutch, and Swedish companies will invest over $25 million to finance the necessary resources for the tobacco crop. The largest number of the tobacco caballerias—1,600—are located in Pinar del Rio Province, 65 in Havana Province; 119 in Villa Clara; and 195 in Sancti Spiritus.

Radio Rebelde also reports that the planting of "power forests"—quick-growth trees to produce coal—is not progressing well, or in those places where the planting goals are met, the forests are planted far from the sites where the energy is required. Rebelde adds that the entire planting program is going to undergo a thorough review.

Radio Reloj at 1930 GMT on 2 June reports the Liberacion de Fomento Cane Cutters Brigade in Sancti Spiritus is the first brigade to reach the goal of 4 million arrobas in the current harvest; adding that the brigade used 161 days to complete the volume with a daily productivity of approximately 25,000 arrobas. The report also says the brigade completed its work at the Ramon Ponciano Mill and has been transferred to Yaguajay, where it will work at the Obdulio Morales Mill.

Radio Rebelde at 2300 GMT on 2 June reports the first oil pipeline built in Moa, located on Cuba's northern coast, began to operate today with the arrival of a Cypriot supertanker which brought 50,000 tons of crude oil. The report says the system is built with pipes which have a 24-inch diameter and it measures approximately 4 km—1 km of this is submerged. The information says the pipeline will replace the old system, which used smaller boats to transfer the oil given the area water's shallow depth. Local nickel plants need more than 500,000 tons of crude oil per year and the use of small boats renderd operations extremely expensive. The state spent approximately $4 million on the new pipeline, but this will be recovered in about two years given the lower transportation expenses. The old system cost the country $500,000 per month.

Dominican Republic

Foreign Secretary Vows Haitian Border Closed

PA0606214794 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1950 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] Belem do Para (Brazil), 6 Jun (EFE)—Today, Juan Aristides Tavares, Dominican foreign relations secretary of state, said the Government of the Dominican Republic guarantees it will maintain its border with Haiti, which was closed in compliance with the total embargo imposed by the United Nations on this Caribbean nation.

Tavares indicated to EFE that there is a disposition within the 24th OAS General Assembly, which was inaugurated today in the Brazilian city of Belem do Para, to ensure the total effectiveness of the embargo imposed on Haiti in May by the UN Security Council.

Tavares pointed out that the Dominican Republic is the nation most harmed by the Haitian political crisis because both nations share the island of Hispaniola and also because of the pressures it has been exposed to in order to implement the embargo.

"No country has had as many problems as we have had. So much has been demanded of us; it is as if we were the only ones" responsible for contributing to the crisis, the foreign relations secretary of state indicated. He added that his government has supported all resolutions related to issues approved by the OAS and the UN Security Council.

"Although the embargo has not been completely effective, we have not violated it intentionally, and, moreover, at this time, our government has ordered the closing of the border," the Dominican Republic foreign secretary said.

The Haitian political crisis is the main issue dominating the 24th OAS General Assembly sessions which will be extended until next Friday and where 70 proposals related to democracy, human rights, security, technical cooperation, environment, counternarcotics, and the economic situation throughout the American continent will be discussed.

Full compliance with the total embargo, especially the guarantee that the Dominican Republic will not violate the 350-km-wide border with Haiti, and the rejection of armed intervention to depose the military coupists are the two main proposals to be discussed during the Belem do Para meeting.

Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, deposed by the military in September 1991 and still considered the legitimate president of Haiti by the international community, participated today in the Assembly inauguration. Aristide has met with Brazilian President Itamar Franco.

Secretary of State Tavares pointed out that the OAS and UN technical observers, who recently visited his country, were able to ascertain that the total embargo is being implemented "firmly along the Dominican-Haitian border."

Haiti

Jonassaint Government Urges Anti-Invasion Measures

FL0606185894 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] The minister of justice received the government order to act against anyone suspected of favoring a foreign intervention in Haiti.

Reacting Saturday 4 June to the statements attributed to the president-in-exile by the NEW YORK TIMES, the provisional government of attorney Emile Jonassaint denounced Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide's statements.

The Ministry of Information stated that it has formally recorded the statements of the president-in-exile who, I quote: After demanding and obtaining a total embargo against Haiti, is calling for an armed action against the

country, unquote. The ministry asks the Justice Department to take the necessary measures to start action against anyone who intends to promote an invasion of Haiti, unquote.

The government also advised that the national territory would be defended by the Army. In three press releases issued on Saturday 4 June, the provisional government denounced the threats of invasion which weigh on the country.

The Ministry of the Interior protested against the violation of Haitian territorial waters by some foreign ships and advised that an order was given to the Armed Forces to take all measures to defend the national territory.

The government, which asked the population to remain calm and vigilant in the face of the provocations, also indicated that any attacks are likely to provoke a counterattack. The Haitian Government, however, reiterated its feelings of friendship and of cooperation toward other friendly countries.

Forms National Crisis Commission

FL0606183994 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] In order to face the sanctions and the total embargo, the government has formed a National Crisis Commission. By decree, the government of Judge Emile Jonassaint announced on Saturday 4 June the formation of a crisis commission in charge of managing the embargo and guaranteeing the rights of the population to food and work. The commission is also in charge of assessing the consequences of the embargo and is presided over by the minister of finances and economy.

Malval: Haitians Will 'Welcome' Intervention

PA0606192694 Paris AFP in Spanish 1748 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 6 Jun (AFP)—Robert Malval, the resigning Haitian prime minister (who is recognized by the international community), said on Monday that "the (Haitian) people would be more willing to welcome the interventionists than to fight them." Malval added that in the event international sanctions against Haiti fail, "the armed option is being considered more all the time."

Speaking over the local private Radio Metropole, Malval referred to a foreign military invasion, mainly a U.S. invasion, and said that "if an army cannot count on the support of the people, it will not be able to resist, regardless of how powerful it may be." Malval added that Army Chief General Raoul Cedras "is reaching the end of his forces." Malval also predicted "very difficult days" for Haitians, and he wished the Army would prevent this for the country.

Meanwhile on Monday, the Haitian Interior Ministry and National Defense (not recognized by the international community) issued a communique announcing that "any attack (from abroad) will provoke a reply, even a suicidal reply." "The army has received instructions "to defend Haitian territory," the communique pointed out while protesting over "the violation of Haitian waters by foreign warships." The communique concludes by asking the people to remain "calm and alert in the face of provocations."

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Information, Culture, and Coordination announced it had "taken note" of statements made on Friday by Jean-Bertrand Aristide, president in exile, to THE NEW YORK TIMES in favor of a foreign military intervention after he spoke out in favor of total embargo. The government communique requests there be a legal proceedings case against "all citizens who try, through their actions or words, to promote the invasion of our country."

President Aristide clarified his statements, denying he had asked for a military intervention in Haiti, which is prohibited by the constitution.

Finally, a presidential communique signed by Emile Jonassaint (not recognized by the international community) announced the establishment of a national crisis commission led by the economy and finance minister "to administer the embargo and to guarantee the rights of the people to food and work."

Criticizes Cedras

FL0606210394 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1100 GMT 6 Jun 94

["Excerpt" from an interview with Prime Minister Robert Malval by Clarens Renois; from the "Meeting" program—recorded]

[Text] [Malval] [words indistinct] always absolute equality. The alleged provisional government has de facto power, but no authority. This power has no legality, no legitimacy. It is a power resting upon bayonets, bayonets that are increasingly rusted. For our part, we have not pretended to hold the government machinery in our hands. We therefore have not been relieved of what we did not have, but we have kept moral authority in the face of the usurpers and legitimate authority in the eyes of the international community. What the people, those responsible for the coup d'etat, do not yet understand is that for President Clinton, the Haitian problem is no longer a Haitian problem, but rather a problem of U.S. domestic policy. On that score, President Clinton is going to show the same determination he showed with other problems falling within the scope of U.S domestic policy.

[Renois] [Words indistinct] Haiti in all that? Meanwhile, there is the embargo that was adopted by the UN Security Council. Mr. Prime Minister, there are also threats of international intervention. In September of 1993, you did not want a total embargo for Haiti, but today, we have reached that point. What is your government's report, today, on the economic situation in the country, the problems of the poor, the deprived strata of this country?

[Malval] In September 1993, I had the same opinion as the—let us say—international community. It was after the Governors Island agreement. We all believed in the good faith of General Cedras. The development of events proved that Gen. Cedras is not a man of his word. Negotiations with someone who does not respect what he signs are senseless. Today, my firmness remains the only language possible in view of such demonstration of bad faith.

(?Cedras had) in his hands all the cards possible to get the country and himself out of the crisis. He preferred to try to outsmart everyone. He thought his fantasies were realities. Well, today, unfortunately, all of us are paying the full price for ambitions which—all things considered—are disproportionate because.... [pauses] here again, I like to use psychological profiles. I know what I am going to say is very strong, but it is my way of perceiving and relating things: Gen. Cedras represents what I would call the debris of the sensual, decadent Jean-Claudism without vision.

Today, Gen Cedras has run out of ideas. He has no alternative to offer the country but a succession of puppet governments that have no foundation among the people, no legal foundations, no constitutional foundations, and no international recognition. This is very little to offer a country that is experiencing the most intense crisis of its history since 1804.

Turks and Caicos Islands Agree To Receive Refugees

FL0606233094 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] The Turks and Caicos Islands have agreed to temporarily receive Haitian refugees. After Jamaica, it will be the turn of the Turks and Caicos Islands to accept the Haitian boat people on their territory for questioning by the U.S. Coast Guard. This decision was made by the local government of the Turks and Caicos Islands, a British colony located 90 miles off Haiti. Rothschild Francois has details:

[Begin Francois recording] In the agreement concluded between Washington and the Turks and Caicos Island Government, it was mentioned that the United States will provide facilities for the questioning of Haitian refugees while they are being considered for political asylum in the United States. These installations will include the utilization of a desalinization factory, the extension of the wharf to accommodate the landing of U.S. ships, and the building of a landing runway. The United States will pay all expenses for this operation and will also provide aid to the Turks and Caicos Islands. One to two million dollars will be spent for this program. The first U.S. technicians are expected on the island within the coming days to prepare for the launching of this program, which will be using a staff of 250.

According to the Press Society, the agreement between the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States indicates that before the center for refugees is operational, the United States could begin interviewing the Haitian boat people on board a U.S. ship in the waters of Turk Island, more precisely, near Grand Turk.

Since the announcement of this partial change in the U.S. policy regarding Haitian refugees, more than 1,500 refugees have been repatriated to Port-au-Prince. The new U.S. policy has not yet been applied. This policy provides that Haitian refugees will no longer be sent back directly to Port-au-Prince, but will be questioned aboard U.S. ships. The qualified refugees who receive political asylum could be admitted to the U.S. territory, while other boat people would be repatriated to Port-au-Prince by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Guatemala

President Reiterates Support for ROC's UN Bid

OW0406081994 Taipei CNA in English 0734 GMT 4 Jun 94

[By Huang Kuan-chun, Lo Kwang-jen, and Benjamin Yeh]

[Text] Guatemala City, June 3 (CNA)—Guatemalan President Ramiro de Leon Carpio Friday [3 June] reiterated his support for the Republic of China [ROC]'s bid to join the United Nations.

De Leon said his country will again put forth a proposal backing the ROC's membership bid during the UN's 49th General Assembly this year, even though a similar move was aborted last year. He made the remarks in a news conference held with ROC Premier Lien Chan at the Presidential Office.

Guatemala, along with six other Latin American countries, submitted a letter to UN Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, asking the UN to put the ROC's UN bid on the agenda for the 48th General Assembly in September 1993.

Lien, leading a 21-member entourage, arrived here Thursday evening from El Salvador for a four-day official visit.

Lien paid his respects to the memory of Guatemala's national martyrs Friday morning. He was later given a key to Guatemala City before he called on the Guatemalan Parliament and Guatemalan Vice President Arturo Herbruger Asturias.

The Guatemalan Government also conferred a medal upon Lien for his promotion of friendly ties between the two countries.

De Leon held a luncheon to honor Lien and his entourage, which includes Economic Affairs Minister P. K. Chiang, Vice Foreign Affairs Minister Fang Chin-yen, Vice Central Bank of China Governor Yu Cheng, and Government Information Office Director-General Jason Hu.

Guatemala is the second leg of Lien's Central American visit. Before he flew into Guatemala, Lien spent four days in El Salvador where he attended the inauguration of Salvadoran President Armando Calderon Sol.

Meanwhile, Economic Affairs Minister P. K. Chiang told the press here that the two countries will sign an investment guarantee agreement when De Leon visits Taipei in July.

Chiang's remarks came after the two countries held wide ranging talks on economic issues, including agriculture, animal husbandry, and trade and industry technological training.

According to Sun Ming-hsien, chairman of the Council of Agriculture, a bilateral agricultural cooperative agreement will be extended for five more years after it expires in November 1995.

Honduras

Reina Distressed Over More Drastic Measures Against Haiti

PA0606165694 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 4 Jun 94 p 3

[Excerpt] Although some ships fly the Honduran flag, this does not necessarily mean they are Honduran, President Carlos Roberto Reina said yesterday in reference to the report that Honduran-flagged ships have violated the embargo against Haiti.

He considered it distressing and unfortunate that the United States and the inter-American system are about to adopt more drastic measures to reestablish democracy in Haiti. He also announced this topic will be addressed at the summit in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. [passage omitted]

Oil Companies Threaten To Discontinue Imports

PA0606231194 Tegucigalpa EL PERIODICO DE HONDURAS in Spanish 4 Jun 94 p 4

[Article by Donaldo Torres Argenal]

[Text] Petroleum-importing companies have threatened the government with discontinuing purchases of oil; therefore, rationing could result beginning 6 June if fuel prices are not deregulated.

According to sector businessmen, ever since the Economy Ministry made the decision to freeze fuel prices, they have been registering losses amounting in the millions.

Augusto Gigerbaud, manager of Distribuidora de Productos Derivados del Petroleo (DIPPSA) [a petroleum byproducts distributing company], has said if government officials do not reply to them within the next 48 hours, fuel rationing will commence nationwide beginning 6 June.

They Demand the Government Take Measures

Gigerbaud has added they can no longer register such losses; therefore, it is necessary for the government to take immediate and extreme measures. Either our cost of the product is taken into consideration, or they must sacrifice their profit margin, he has said.

As to the freezing of fuel prices, the businessman has termed the measure as arbitrary and dangerous, due to the repercussions that could adversely affect importing companies.

Gigerbaud has reiterated the measure is arbitrary, because whenever the government has asked us to make a sacrifice or help, we have agreed to do so.

In this regard, the businessman has said that before President Carlos Roberto Reina made his presentation via television to mark his first 100 days in office, a member of his economic cabinet had called them three days before requesting that fuel prices not be increased.

Gigerbaud has said they are often asked to do this type of favor, and this is why they consider it unjust for the government not to make the correct decision, thereby creating a crisis.

Texaco and Esso Will Join

The DIPPSA manager has said he is certain the multinational companies Esso and Texaco will also agree not to continue importing petroleum and to initiate rationing.

They cannot continue to support losses in the millions, as it is occurring with us, because these losses already total in the millions, the businessman has said.

EL PERIODICO has wanted to find out the opinion of the representatives of the multinationals, but the security personnel of both companies only stated the executives did not want to disclose any information, adding they had been ordered not to allow any members of the media inside the installations.

The Government Does Not Know How To Handle the Petroleum Sector

Meanwhile, Henry Arevalo, DIPPSA executive president, has said that by freezing the prices of petroleum byproducts the government is demonstrating it does not have the capability to handle the petroleum sector. It has changed its petroleum policy several times within two months

A Crisis Draws Near

According to Arevalo, these measures demand too much a sacrifice from them, cornering them to the extent they can no longer support these losses. Thus, the companies can no longer export petroleum. [sentence as published]

Arevalo has warned that if the situation persists, a large crisis could be created in the fuel supply, and the government would be solely responsible for not taking the correct measures.

He has said if additional purchases of petroleum abroad are not confirmed within the next three days, they will have to start rationing to stretch their inventories. Consequently, alarming situations will be produced.

Arevalo has reiterated that, until the government assumes its responsibility, they will no longer continue to import fuel. This would force the public sector in turn to supply the demand for which it does not have the capability.

The businessman has explained they do not wish to cause additional problems for the current administration; to the contrary, they would like to cooperate in every way possible so as not to adversely affect the community.

The only thing at which the government measure is aimed is not allowing them to recover their investment in importing petroleum. To recover the investment, fuel prices must be deregulated, because the value of this sector on the international market continues to rise, Arevalo has said.

In conclusion, the businessman has said the government's problem is "it starts to look for medicine when the patient is already in a coma."

[Tegucigalpa EL PERIODICO in Spanish on 4 June 94 on page 1, in a similar item, adds: "Economy Minister Delmer Urbizo Pating has warned the government will not negotiate anything under pressure, given the importers' decision not to continue the supplying of fuel. The minister has added that based on advice from a consultant of the World Bank, the price of fuel will be negotiated with the petroleum importers."]

Nicaragua

Chamorro 'Putting Off' Decision on Haitian Refugees

PA0606224394 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 5 Jun 94 p 5

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government has been putting off a decision regarding the Haitian refugees with the clear intent to avoid upsetting U.S. President Bill Clinton with a negative response.

This is inferred from Dona Violeta's remarks upon returning from El Salvador. She said that Nicaragua will respond to the United States in December with regard to receiving Haitian refugees. "I always said that all of us in Central America are studying the request and will announce our decision at the summit to be held with President Clinton in Miami in December," she said.

While the presidents of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica have ruled out the possibility of their countries' receiving Haitian refugees, citing excessive poverty and a lack of proper conditions, Dona Violeta keeps saying that the request is being studied and that a decision will be made in December.

We must admit that this position—a very intelligent one—makes it possible for the Nicaraguan Government to gain time. According to international analysts, the problem created by the military in Haiti will have been resolved by December. The hypothesis that anything can happen between now and December is much more acceptable if we take into consideration the fact that Nicaragua will most likely support the U.S. proposal at

the OAS to restore democracy in Haiti. The U.S. proposal for Haiti even considers the possibility of a military invasion, which, if approved, would take place very soon thereafter, because everything is ready.

It goes without saying that Nicaragua is in no position to receive refugees. We must admit, however, that Dona Violeta has already learned to deal with international politics. Too bad it is a little late.

Efforts on Confiscated Property Issue Viewed

PA0606193894 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Jun 94

[From the "Six O'Clock Sharp" newscast]

[Text] President Violeta Chamorro and Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo have only told U.S. Congressmen Cass Ballenger and Robert Torricelli that more effort will be made toward compensation payments. Chamorro and Lacayo have not said anything new. They are still offering the same they did three years ago. They repeated the same old argument—that the privatization of the Nicaraguan Communications and Postal Services Institute will be used to back the payments. This is a clear sign that the government has no intention of returning those properties the Sandinistas divvied up.

U.S. Congressmen Robert Torricelli and Cass Ballenger are leaving today. Torricelli, Ballenger, and Nicaraguan Blanca Perez Macias—formerly Bianca Jagger—came last week to discuss several topics with the government, including the issue of confiscated properties and the need to return them to their true owners. They discussed political topics and U.S. investment in Nicaragua with military leaders, Cardinal Obando y Bravo, the private sector, and others. Although the congressmen were rather brief at the end, they clearly conveyed to the government that aid to Nicaragua might be stopped if properties are not returned to those Lacayo called the Nicaraguan caitudos [pejorative term for some Nicaraguans who are naturalized U.S. citizens]. The caitudos are claiming their properties as U.S. citizens.

[Begin recording] [(Roberto Basalli), president of the association of U.S. owners of confiscated properties] We know that from now until the end of July, it is impossible to entirely resolve the property issue, which is highly complicated. Our goal is that if the Nicaraguan Government shows enough progress, then aid will be given for a year. According to the amendment, the Secretary of State must, each year, confirm any progress made in countries where properties have been seized from U.S. citizens.

Consequently, if Nicaragua shows enough progress, it must receive aid for a year so that it has the opportunity to continue and finish resolving the problem. We are very aware that the problem cannot be resolved in 90 days.

[Unidentified Reporter] The first 30 days have already gone by [words indistinct]. Do not you think they might have used some sort of strategy to avoid resolving this problem?

[Basalli] We do not know precisely what the Nicaraguan Government is doing or plans to do. Thus far, there have been no results. However, we must give the Nicaraguan Government the benefit of the doubt because they might be preparing to make a move regarding this issue. [end recording]

Rightist Groups Challenge Proposed Military Law

PA0606221194 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Jun 94

[From the "Events" newscast]

[Text] The Nicaraguan right is challenging the future military law. Sectors of the Nicaraguan right have launched a ferocious campaign against the future military code that will be approved in Congress and whose goal will be to subordinate the Armed Forces to the civilian authorities of this Central American nation.

Politicians from various political circles, politicized entrepreneurs, and certain lawyers have begun to voice their stand against the draft law that two Legislative Assembly committees will discuss today.

According to Oscar Herdocia, that military code will leave the Army as another power within the state, inasmuch as the military's decisionmaking powers will be reestablished with absolute independence. Herdocia said that the Armed Forces cannot be an autonomous entity independent of the state, but rather a body within the Executive Branch.

Francisco Mayorga, former president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua and leader of the rightist Nicaraguan Civic Movement, said that passing the draft military law will be like deceiving civilian power and the citizenry, because it will reestablish the appointment of a defense minister, who is empowered to supervise the behavior of the [words indistinct].

Argentina, Nicaragua Sign Cooperation Memorandum

PA0706045294 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 June 94 p 3

[Text] Argentina and Nicaragua have signed a memorandum regarding legal technological assistance and cooperation between the Argentine Justice Ministry and the Nicaraguan Office of the Attorney General. The document was signed by Argentine Justice Minister Jorge Maiorano and Nicaraguan Ambassador to Argentina Gilberto Bergman Padilla. The technical cooperation will be in crime prevention, training, and other fields that contribute to the modernization of the administration of justice.

Panama

Endara To Announce Amnesty for Former Officials

PA0606232394 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 6 Jun 94 p 1A

[Report by Juan Pritsiolas]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara is planning to announce this week an amnesty that will benefit 578 former officials of the former regime, according to official sources.

The list includes 75 former members, 510 former corregimiento representatives, former President Eric Arturo Delvalle; Juan B. Sosa, former ambassador to the United States; and Vice President-elect Gabriel Altamirano Duque [figures as published].

The case of the 510 representatives exists because they appointed General Manuel Antonio Noriega as chief of government. The dossiers against Delvalle and Sosa are related to the investigations the second circuit prosecutor is conducting on alleged irregularities in the handling of $10.8 million from the funds the United States froze on Panama. The case against Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque concerns charges made by Omayra Correa, Panama City mayor-elect.

Concurrently, the assembly is debating an amnesty for political crimes. Legislator Raul Ossa has said the individuals in line to receive these benefits should only be those accused of violations against state security; otherwise, this amnesty would leave a door open to benefit those being investigated for common crimes.

Meanwhile, Miguel Bush, legislator from the Democratic Revolutionary Party, has wanted to add an article to the draft amnesty so that it would exclude those charged with homicide and embezzlement.

A judiciary source has said the dossier against the former members of the General State Council includes: Manuel Solis Palma; Manuel Antonio Noriega; Francisco Rodriguez; Rodolfo Chiari De Leon; Jorge Ritter; Orville Goodin; Rene Bultron; Juan Bosco Bernal; Elmo Martinez Blanco; Darien Ayala; Cesar Martans; Jose Renan Esquivel; and Ricardo Bermudez.

It also includes Nander Pitty; Celso Carrizo; Carlos Villalaz; Olmedo Sanjur; Pascual Gonzalez; Virgilio Mirones; Rafael Arosemena; Azael Purcait; Jaime Simons; Francisco Sanchez Cardenas; Alejandro Vernaza; Aida de Gartner; Alberto Luis Tunon; Dario Fernandez; Dario Gonzalez; Carlos Orillac; Benjamin Colamarco; Tomas Noriega; Rafael Castrellon; and Gilberto Tunon.

Other former members of the General State Council are: Angel Jaen; Mario Luis Pitti; Luis Blanco; Cesar Montenegro; Bernardo Dominguez; Leovigildo Herrera; Euclides Tejada; Elvia de Ortiz; Dagoberto Lara; Ana Villa de Flores; Carlos Estrada; Veyra Remon; Victor Levy; Victoria de Robolt; Marcos Hughes; Jose Arauz; Jose Rodriguez; Marcos Mariscal; Alberto Arjona; Fermin Herrera; and Eufemia Laguna.

Also included in the dossiers are Julio Shaik; Jorge Bristan; Mateo Castillero; Arturo Diez; Augusto Valderrama; Aminta de Guillen; Nilson Espino; Hidalgo Fung; Abdiel Juliao; Eduardo Marin; Rafael Moreno; Paulino Romero; Jorge Tason; Aurea Torrijos; and Ligia Castro.

Report: Endara May Withdraw Draft of Reform Bill

PA0606231394 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 6 Jun 94 p 1a

[Report by Carlos Anel Cordero]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara could withdraw from the Legislative Assembly the draft bill on constitutional reforms, in which the abolition of the Panamanian Army is proposed as well as financial and administrative autonomy for the Electoral Tribunal.

Endara has acknowledged opposition had "emerged" ever since these constitutional reforms were presented. Various sectors of the community have expressed their rejection to these reforms, and this is why he is assessing their possible withdrawal from the assembly.

Nevertheless, Endara has said he personally agrees with the text of these reforms, which offer greater freedom of action and financial independence to the Electoral Tribunal.

In the name of the executive branch, Government and Justice Minister Jacobo Salas presented to the Legislative Assembly at the end of May a "package of reforms" to the Constitution that should be approved during the current assembly session and ratified by the next.

Up until now, the Legislative Assembly has not initiated the debate on this "package of reforms" to the Constitution, but political, professional, and even internal sectors of the assembly, have rejected it.

Endara has said that as of yet he has not decided if he will call special assembly sessions to discuss these reforms; nevertheless, he has said this is a possibility he is also contemplating.

The National Front for a Constituent Assembly (FRENO) last week reiterated its rejections of these reforms, affirming an overall revision must be made to the Constitution instead of "adding more bits and pieces."

FRENO has insisted on the need to call a constituent assembly to take charge of the drafting of a new constitutional text the nation requires in light of the changes that have occurred in the past years.

Commission Formed To Study Entry of Haitians

PA0606164094 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 6 Jun 94 p 52

[By Jose Gonzalez Batista]

[Text] Jose Javier Mulino, director of the National Office for Attention to Refugees [Oficina Nacional para la Atencion de los Refugiados—ONPAR], said yesterday the Panamanian Government has installed a national commission formed by state and civic organizations to evaluate the situation and entry of refugees from Haiti and other nations into Panama.

This comission is formed by representatives of the Government, Labor, and Foreign Ministries, Immigration, State Security, ONPAR, UNHCR, and the Red Cross, among other organizations. The commission is analyzing the request made by the United States to permit the arrival of Haitian refugees in Panama.

Although Panama has not adopted an official position regarding the request, unofficial international reports indicate that the United States plans to transfer to Panama a total of 5,000 Haitian refugees who are currently in Florida.

Nevertheless, Jose Javier Mulino denied that the national commission, ONPAR, and the UNHCR are studying the entry of such a large number of refugees, "because this country is not prepared to meet such expenses or deal with their presence here."

Building Used by Managua Mission To Be Returned

PA0606175794 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 6 Jun 94 p 12

[By David Daniel Victoria]

[Text] The Cabinet Council has authorized the Foreign Ministry to proceed with the return of the building that has served as the Panamanian Embassy in Nicaragua for 14 years. An official document indicated that the building had been expropriated from its legitimate owner and donated to Panama.

According to the document, the Nicaraguan Government asked the Panamanian diplomatic mission in Nicaragua to return the building because it had been expropriated from its legitimate owner during the administration of Anastasio Somoza, who was killed after being overthrown by the Sandinists.

In 1982, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry decided to donate the building to the Panamanian Embassy in Managua. The building has served as residence for our diplomatic missions since then.

Through a "verbal note" on 17 February, the Nicaraguan Government notified the Panamanian Government that in order to correct actions committed by previous administrations, it is working to return property expropriated from Nicaraguans and foreigners. Therefore, it requested the return of the building being used by the Panamanian Embassy.

The Panamanian Government replied it has no objections to returning the building, specially if the donation was never legalized. Therefore, it authorized the Foreign Ministry to return the building through the Panamanian diplomatic mission in Nicaragua.

Argentina

Menem Confirms Duhalde as Running Mate

PY0606194694 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1701 GMT 4 Jun 94

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Jun (NA)—President Carlos Menem confirmed at noon on 4 June that Eduardo Duhalde will be his running mate on the 1995 presidential ticket if the latter is prevented from seeking his reelection as Buenos Aires Province governor. Duhalde publicly confirmed that this is indeed the case.

Speaking during a news conference he held at noon at Duhalde's Don Tomas villa in San Vicente, Menem also forecast that the PJ [Justicialist Party] will win next year's presidential elections "by obtaining 45 percent of the votes, and will beat the second largest vote-getter by more than 10 percent."

Before the new conference, the chief executive dedicated 250 new housing units in San Vicente's Eva Peron neighborhood. During this ceremony Menem said he was convinced that Duhalde will be given a chance to seek his reelection "provided the people of Buenos Aires start pushing for it."

Menem currently is playing a soccer match at the Don Tomas villa. He then will join Duhalde for a barbecue and watch the soccer match between Argentina and Croatia. Menem forecast that "the Argentine team will win 3-1" [Argentina and Croatia tied 0-0].

Duhalde Willing To Run on Ticket

PY0606200094 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1926 GMT 4 Jun 94

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Jun (NA)—Buenos Aires Province Governor Eduardo Duhalde stated on 4 June that he is convinced that the provincial Constituent Assembly will approve the bill allowing Buenos Aires governors to be reelected. He made it clear, however, that if that is not the case, he is willing to be Menem's running mate in the 1995 presidential elections.

Speaking in San Vicente, Duhalde said he does not want the people of Buenos Aires Province to push for his reelection because this issue will be negotiated at the provincial Constituent Assembly.

Metal Workers Union Reaches Accord With Industry

PY0606160794 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1821 GMT 4 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, 4 Jun (NA)—Local Metalworkers Union (UOM) workers today accepted the agreement reached in the federal capital between UOM representatives and business by which the 18-day conflict was settled.

At the end of the workers assembly just before noon, an act on the decision made in the assembly was signed by the local UOM secretary general, Marcelo Sosa; Pedro Waisman, head of the Tierra del Fuego Industrial Union; and a Labor Ministry representative.

The act was signed during a meeting held by representatives of all the parties involved, in the this capital's Albatros Hotel.

During the assembly in this city's Augusto Lacerre Sports Center, which was headed by Marcelo Sosa in the presence of about 500 union members, the workers accepted all the points of the agreement announced in Buenos Aires on 3 June.

It was learned, however, that about 30 percent of the union members disagreed with the agreement establishing a gradual increase of 300 percent in one year—which triples the basic salary of the national agreement in the household goods metal sector—on a variable scale starting at 120 percent and increasing 20 percent per month, reaching 310 percent in one year. [figures as received]

The agreement's approval by the majority of the metalworkers put an end to 18 days of conflict including picket lines and threats of repression by Tierra del Fuego police.

At the assembly's end, Sosa said that "the workers decided to obey the agreement" reached in Buenos Aires on 3 June. Sosa accused businessmen by saying "we ran into an intransigent position by businessmen."

Sosa confirmed, however, that a new round of negotiations between workers and businessmen for the payment of the days not worked [salarios caidos] will begin in this city on 6 June, and that the talks will be held with each company.

The businessmen agreed to rehire the 127 workers dismissed from the Continental factory and the 63 dismissed from the Crown Mustang plant, which is located in Rio Grande, about 200 km from this capital.

The only unresolved point is the 15 days not worked, but it was learned here that an agreement probably will be reached to pay the days not worked during the conflict, but businessmen would demand that the workers compensate for the days not worked. [passage omitted]

Bolivia

Armed Forces Commander Rules Out Possible Coup

PY0606143394 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 31 May 94 p 7

[Text] General Moises Shriqui, the Armed Forces Chief of Staff, yesterday referred to statements by former labor union leader Juan Lechin regarding a future rapprochement between the armed institution and the peoples'

organizations. He denied a possible coup d'etat as a result of an alleged reduction of troops.

Lechin said the U.S. Government fears rapprochement between the Armed Forces and peoples' organizations. He praised the role of the military since the country returned to democracy.

Shriqui told PRESENCIA: "We are very pleased with his comments, and he is quite right. Mr. Lechin deserves our respect as a combatant who has always struggled for the workers' needs. If at times we may have been adversaries, as he stated, it was only for constitutional reasons."

Lechin also warned that the Latin American military would stage a coup if the U.S. continues to demand a reduction of the Armed Forces and that the Bolivian military would adopt a similar attitude.

Shriqui said: "That is what Lechin says, maybe we should ask him why he says that."

The journalist insisted: "What do the Armed Forces think?"

The military chief answered: "We abide by the Constitution and are determined to defend it. We remain aware of the situation within the country."

Lechin admitted that in the past he criticized the Armed Forces due to its involvement in politics. The old union leader said: "I have dreamed of a productive Army, whose ideal was to have soldiers carrying rifles but dressed in overalls."

He added that the people will never allow the elimination of the Armed Forces.

Brazil

'Largest Drug Seizure Ever Made in Brazil' Reported

PY0706031594 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Excerpts] The Federal Police have seized 7 tonnes of cocaine hidden inside tobacco boxes in Tocantins State. This is the largest drug seizure ever made in Brazil. The operation began yesterday at a farm in the municipality of Guarai in Tocantins State.

The Federal Police have been closely watching this area in Tocantins State, where the drug traffickers own a 750 hectare farm whose sole purpose, according to police, is to receive drugs.

The trucks loaded with cocaine were intercepted near the Belem-Brasilia highway. They had been planning to travel directly to the port of Santos [Sao Paulo State], where the drugs were to be shipped to the United States.

The police are surprised at the organizational level of the drug traffickers. The drugs were hidden inside tobacco bundles purchased in Rio Grande do Sul, and brought here through operations carried out by ghost firms. After weighing the drugs the police confirmed a surprising 7 tonnes of cocaine. [passage omitted]

According to the police agents who commanded this operation, the cocaine was brought into Brazil by Colombian drug traffickers, to some as yet unidentified point in Rondonia State. From there, it was flown in small Brazilian airplanes to their probable refueling base in the city of Alta Floresta in Mato Grosso State, from where the cocaine was flown to the farm in Guarai, Tocantins and unloaded.

Following a shootout at the farm, the police arrested seven drug traffickers. The leader, a Lebanese who had become a naturalized Brazilian citizen, Nasrat Jamil Hazul, is a businessman from Foz do Iguacu and Paraguay. According to the police, the drug traffickers expected to earn a lot of money because they spent nearly $1 million bringing the drugs from Colombia. [passage omitted]

In making a final control of the weight of the drugs, the police found an additional half tonne of cocaine. This means that the police seized 7.5 tonnes of cocaine. The police found and arrested three other drug traffickers. The gang members confessed that last year they sent 2 tonnes of cocaine abroad using this same route.

The police arrested two men that were in charge of the bureaucratic procedures of the drug trafficking gang. All the documents that the gang needed were forged on the fifth floor of this building downtown in Sao Paulo. Today here, the Federal Police arrested forwarding agent Sergio Ricardo de Souza, who already had a police record for forging documents. The police likewise arrested business administrator Jacques Juarez Minicozky. Souza was in charge of forging the lading bills, while Minicozky had found a way to have them legalized. This bill of lading, for example, was made in December of last year, probably to cover another cocaine shipment. It was made in the name of the In-Out Comercial Exportadora Lta., a ghost company created by the two men.

The police also confiscated several seals and documents, including this passport which was to be used by the man responsible for receiving the drugs in the United States. Minicozky told the police he would receive $10,000 for forging the bill of lading and for looking after the bureaucratic proceedings for shipping the containers. Minicozky and Souza are under arrest for using false documents, and a Tocantins judge has asked for their temporary imprisonment.

Army Concerned Over Landless People's Movement

PY0606150594 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 1827 GMT 5 Jun 94

[Report by Tania Monteiro]

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Jun (AE)—The expansion of the Landless People's Movement (MST) in Brazil was on the agenda of a meeting the 14 Army High Command generals held at the end of May. Military reports say that documents prepared by the Army reveal that in addition to the Trabalhadores Ranch in Pernambuco, land invaders have another training area known as "Cacador University" in Santa Catarina in the town of Cacador.

Most Army reports on landless people's action were prepared by the Southern Military Command, which covers Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, and Parana. The Army considers these states the most critical because of frequent land occupations and the methods landless people use in their operations. There is also major concern about Sao Paulo State, which the military has placed in fourth place because of the large number of land occupations. Next comes Pernambuco as the state with the next largest number of occupations.

Army reports show that "Cacador University" is an old convent that priests donated to the Landless People's Movement. Various types of training are given in the convent, which landless people have christened a "university" because it is considered a school. According to military sources, the slogan of the group occupying this area is "occupy, resist, and produce."

According to information gathered by the Army, when someone outside the MST gets near the area, landless people abandon all suspicious activities that might prove they were undergoing training and begin chanting church songs in an attempt to show they were in a cult.

A Strategic Affairs Secretariat (SAE) document, to which O ESTADO had exclusive access this week, also mentioned "Cacador University." SAE also considers the "university" a landless people's training area.

The Army reports always mention the Military Police's rapid intervention in all the places where land occupations have been reported. Army officers are concerned because if the Military Police are overwhelmed or if help is needed to enforce the Constitution, the Army will be called in. This is why the Army believes it is justified in closely following all landless people's movements.

At Army High Command meetings, generals always evaluate landless people's action. The matter never has a noticeable place on the agenda, but it surfaces either as part of the debate or as a subject for an exchange of information among military commanders whenever they discuss the national situation.

Only 3 State-Owned Companies' Officials Dismissed

PY0606185594 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2315 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 3 Jun (AE)—Today, one of President Itamar Franco's advisers reported that political pressure on Planalto Palace and several ministries has reduced to only three the number of state-owned companies' directors who were dismissed for converting employees' salaries into Real Value Units by the maximum percentage index. Transportation Minister Rubem Bayma Denys had estimated that at least 50 managers would be dismissed, discharged, or retired as a result of the incident. The official gazette, however, only published the name of three directors to be dismissed: Rilson Carneiro Raposo, Jose Eudes Rangel, and Roberto Vaz da Silva. They are, respectively, the president and directors of the Executive Group for the Study of Transportation Integration Policy (Geipot). [passage omitted]

Franco To Open 24th OAS General Assembly in Belem

PY0606125594 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Report by Luiz Augusto Mendonca from Belem—live]

[Text] President Itamar Franco arrived in Belem [Para State] on the night of 5 June. This morning at 1000 [1400 GMT], he will officially open the 24th OAS General Assembly. The president of the Republic was welcomed at the Belem Air Base by Para Governor Carlos Santos on the night of 5 June and immediately left for the Hilton Hotel, where he is staying.

After opening the OAS meeting, President Franco will visit the (Emilio Goeldi) Museum in Belem where he will plant a tree to celebrate the International Environment Day. Franco will then hear speeches by the ministers of the environment and Legal Amazon Region, and science and technology. Franco will issue a stamp celebrating International Environment Day.

In the afternoon, President Itamar Franco will have a private meeting with ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. At night, the president of the Republic will be decorated with the Grao Para medal, the most important Para State decoration. He will later host a dinner for the foreign delegations.

Chilean Minister on Joining Mercosur

PY0606143294 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] Chile will probably be the fifth country to join the Common Market of the South, Mercosur. Chilean Foreign Minister Carlos Figueroa and Brazilian counterpart Celso Amorim reported this news in Belem, Para State on the night of 5 June. Here is Antonia Marcia Vale's report:

[Begin recording] [Vale] Since the beginning of the Mercosur negotiations, Chile has refused to participate. The Chilean foreign minister now states that his country's interest in joining Mercosur follows President Itamar Franco's proposal, in Chile in December 1993, to establish a free-trade zone in Latin America.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim asserted that if Chile joins Mercosur it will be advantageous and represent a door for Brazilian exports to the Pacific Region market.

[Amorim] This possibility is important for us, not just because Chile has commercial and political importance or because of old ties that bind our two countries. Mercosur member countries have always considered the possibility of Chile becoming a member. As the Chilean foreign minister said, this initiative is a result of the current Brazilian Government, of President Itamar Franco's proposal to establish a South American free-trade area. This shows we have indeed been working in the right direction. This possibility gives us enormous satisfaction.

[Vale] The foreign minister reported that Chile's main concern about entering Mercosur had been the high taxes charged by Brazil on imported items. Minister Amorim added that this difficulty has practically ceased because currently our custom fees average just 14 percent. [end recording]

Electoral, Economic Objectives of Real Viewed

94SM0363A Sao Paulo ISTOE in Portuguese 18 May 94 pp 32, 33

[Article by Octavio Costa and Sonia Filgueiras with contributions by Darcio Oliveira and Valeria Silva: "Virtual Reality"]

[Text] On 1 July, Brazil will awaken to the jingle of the ninth currency in its history: the *real*. The operation will be unprecedented, since it will not feature the traditional chopping off of three zeros to which Brazilians have become accustomed since the first monetary reform, in October 1942, when one thousand *reis* were swapped for one *cruzeiro*. Divided by the quotation of the URV [Real Unit of Value], the *real cruzeiros* will simply vanish from the map, giving rise to an initially strong currency equivalent to the U.S. dollar. The Itamar Franco government plans to use this trump card to kill two birds with one stone: defeat inflation without breaching contracts, and lift former Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso's [FHC's] candidacy out of the doldrums.

As the Currency Wheel Turns

The *real*, a coin from Empire days, is back in the economy again

Year	Currency	Abbreviation
Empire	Real	(Rs)
1942	Cruzeiro	(Cr$)
1967	Cruzeiro novo	(NCr$)
1970	Cruzeiro	(Cr$)
1986	Cruzado	(Cz$)
1989	Cruzado novo	(NCz$)
1990	Cruzeiro	(Cr$)
1993	Cruzeiro real	(CR$)
1994	Real	(R$)

The political objective of the introduction of the new currency was exposed with all its colors by the president of Brazil when he invited the PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party] candidate to the ceremony announcing the *real*, held Monday 9 May at Planalto Palace. The announcement itself was made by Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero, but it is Fernando Henrique Cardoso's future that is at stake. If the *real* flourishes—at least until 3 October—his candidacy can consolidate itself as an alternative to the favorite, Luis Inacio Lula da Silva. For that very reason, there are those who say the adoption of the new currency was rushed: the ideal thing would have been to wait until all the economic agents had adapted to the URV, before coining the *real*. But if there was haste to the point of destabilizing the new currency, obviously the onus will fall on the shoulders of FHC as presidential hopeful.

There is no doubt that the backdrop is the race to succeed Itamar Franco. But despite the fairly explicit presence of Cardoso, the president has tried hard to disavow any connotation of political opportunism. "If I stand here today, asking Brazil to believe in the *real*, it is because I am sure that we are ready now," said Itamar. And he insisted that what is at stake is the daily life of all Brazilians: "Only with the economy in order can everyone begin to win—especially the poorest, the workers who live by their paychecks and have no way to protect themselves against inflation." Fernando Henrique Cardoso, who made a point of posing for photos at the president's side, also rejected these insinuations: "No one is producing the *real* because of a candidacy."

The future will decide whether the *real* will or will not help FHC's candidacy. To Brazilian men and women, however, what is important is the new currency's impact on their daily lives. And, if we are to believe the words of Minister Ricupero, there is no reason to be apprehensive. The new currency will be adopted with surgical precision. Starting 1 July, for an interval initially set at 15 days, the public will have to go to the banks to exchange their paper money and coins. One *real* will be worth one URV, which will have its value in cruzeiros fixed by the Central Bank. The balances in checking or financial investment accounts (the *fundao*, fixed-income funds, commodities funds, etc.) will automatically be converted from *real cruzeiros* to *reals*, also on the basis of the URV of 1 July. To facilitate service to the public, banking hours will be extended by one hour. Right now there are three billion *real cruzeiro* notes in circulation, equivalent to $3.2 billion. By 1 July, 1.9 billion *real* notes will be manufactured—approximately $27 billion. It is believed that with the decline in the inflation rate, the phenomenon economists call the "monetization" of the economy will occur. That is, once in possession of a strong currency, people will use more hard cash. The Central Bank predicts that the volume of money in circulation will rise from the present $3.2 billion to

about $9 billion. The Central Bank's backup inventory of currency, which traditionally corresponds to twice the total value of notes in circulation, will be $8 billion.

The banking system insists that the exchange will take place without much trouble. "The banks have flexible systems. Despite a conversion unprecedented in this country, the stipulated value of the *real* on 1 July will remain unchanged for 15 days. We will accomplish the exchange within two or three days, easily," explained Claudio Lelis, director of Lloyds Bank. He points out that during the Collor Plan, banks had to live for a long time with two currencies: the *cruzeiro* and the *cruzado*. This time, the banks' greatest concern is security. "The massive distribution of bills and coins will force the banks to beef up their security services," said Luis Fernando Faria, director of Banco Itau. Febraban [Brazilian Federation of Banks] is negotiating with the Central Bank and the Ministry of Finance to obtain Army coverage during the currency swap.

But the period the banks consider as "black" encompasses the months of June and July. This is because uncertainty as to the behavior of inflation in July will require them to pay doubly close attention when they purchase negotiable instruments. If they overvalue the yields on the securities that comprise their portfolios, they may incur losses. "June is the time for banks to be careful about speculative investments," warns Francisco Camargo, director of products at Banco Frances e Brasileiro. "We have to pay special attention when negotiating the federal bonds to ballast the financial investment and commodities [preceding word in English] funds."

If replacing the *real cruzeiros* has been suitably solved, there are questions about private contracts, such as rent and school tuition. In the case of rents, the government hopes tenants and lessors will arrive at a consensus that will enable them to "URVatize" their contracts before 1 July. As for monthly tuition payments, the suggestion is that schools negotiate with the parents of the students on a case-by-case basis, also adopting the URV in due time. To prevent uncertainty or distress among small savers, the government was quick to supply an answer regarding the savings account system. The yield will be post-fixed according to a new index yet to be created, and guarantees the 0.5 percent of real yield above the inflation rate.

Having reassured bank account holders and savers, the government must still answer the crucial questions that will determine the precise profile of the new currency: exchange policy and monetary policy. There is no rush with respect to the latter, since any mistake would have disastrous effects. As regards the exchange rate, economists and businessmen agree that the parity to the dollar must be maintained for at least 60 days in order to ensure the credibility of the new currency. After two months, the currency will begin to suffer slight devaluations. "Our economy is more sophisticated than the Argentine. It will not permit a fixed exchange rate for very long," explains economist Paulo Guedes, of Banco Pactual. In short, the *real* is strong at the starting gate, but Brazil is not Switzerland. In the case of interest rates, there is no alternative. High interest rates will be the policy, to prevent an explosion of consumption. After all, without inflation, consumers might rush to the stores as they did during the Cruzado Plan. And all that is desired of the *real* is that it not repeat the resounding failure of the *cruzado*.

Operation Rescue—Government Promotes Adjustments at Federal Banks

The economic team is making some drastic adjustments at the official federal banks, which constitute one of the bottlenecks in the implantation of the Real Plan. Simulations done by the Ministry of Finance show that the five federal banks—Banco do Nordeste do Brasil, Banco do Brasil, Banco da Amazonia, Caixa Economica Federal, CEF [Federal Savings Bank], and Banco Meridional—would operate in the red under a scenario of low inflation rates, say 2 percent a month. Among measures designed to trim the fat and improve the earnings statements of those financial institutions is the shutdown of about 300 branches, mostly branches of the CEF and Banco do Brasil. Although the decision was made as part of the shift to the *real*, the move had been under study since last year.

"The entire financial system is running simulations and making adjustments. We are taking care of our banks," said the executive secretary of the Finance Ministry, Clovis Carvalho. He insists the five banks have been reacting well to the plan, but the economic team knows the task is not that easy. Besides losing their precious inflation-generated gains, the federal banks must also get ready for the withdrawals by the public that will start in July. With the reduction of the rates of inflation, the public will feel more comfortable about carrying cash in their pockets. The government faces another difficulty: under election laws, it is forbidden to fire anyone until the beginning of next year. The alternative would be to sell off real estate and be more energetic in collecting bank fees and overdue loans from individuals and companies.

Lula Campaign Aims To Strengthen Lead in Polls

PY0706013394 Sao Paulo AGENCIA ESTADO in Portuguese 2320 GMT 5 Jun 94

[Text] Sao Paulo, 5 Jun (AE)—PT [Workers Party] presidential candidate Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva will resume his presidential campaign tomorrow (6 June). During the whole of the month of June, and prior to the implementation of the real on 1 July, Lula will try to consolidate his lead in the opinion polls. The PT will create People's Committees [Comites Populares] to promote party activism on the streets. It will launch the first of its long-term programs, the job program, and will unveil an alternative to the economic program of his main opponent, Fernando Henrique Cardoso (PSDB) [Brazilian Social Democracy Party]. In addition, Lula will take new trips. On 6 June, he will visit Espirito

Santo, the only state he has not yet visited. All this seeks to counterbalance a possible negative impact on his candidacy if the implementation of the new currency leads to economic stability.

A source close to Lula has reported that "to counterbalance the real, on 9 June, Lula will launch a job program, showing that curbing the inflation rate is not enough to improve the standard of living of the people." He added that "promoting the People's Committees throughout Brazil will be a way to take the presidential campaign to the streets because up to now, the campaign consisted of Lula touring the country by bus. Gilberto Carvalho, one of the presidential campaign coordinators, reported that within the next few days, the PT will disclose an alternative economic plan to the dollarization of the economy, in opposition to Cardoso's plan. The idea is to propose another currency backing; and to show that Cardoso's economic plan caused losses in converting prices to Real Value Units on the basis of the peak inflation rate of the four previous months, while salaries were converted on the basis of the average inflation rate of the four previous months. It also intends to prove that Cardoso's economic plan does not foresee a solution to the job problem or the achievement of economic growth.

In Espirito Santo, Lula plans to hold rallies in Vitoria, Linhares, Sao Mateus, Colatina, and Cachoeiro de Itapermirim. He will also meet with business and religious leaders. He will be in Porto Alegre from 10 to 12 June, and is scheduled to hold a rally on 12 June at Vale do Anhangabau in the city of Sao Paulo.

Lula Outlines Foreign Policies

PY0706003994 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 Jun 94 p 30

[Article by Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, Brazilian Workers Party presidential candidate; "special for CLARIN from COMUNICA PRESS"]

[Text] Brasilia, 4 May—We are once again on the eve of an Ibero-American meeting of chiefs of state, which will be held in Cartagena de las Indias, and are awaiting the December meeting of American chiefs of state to be held in Miami.

These two events will take place before and after 100 million Brazilians are to elect, in October, their new president, the entire Chamber of Deputies, and two-thirds of the Senate.

The Workers Party [PT], of which I was president until a few days ago and which is the party that is supporting my presidential bid, considers these two forums to be very important, especially at a time when the world is experiencing important transformations and needs to redefine the economic and political order that emerged at the end of World War II.

This is why we value the Cartagenas meeting, if only it can help implement concrete measures to face the serious social problems that Latin America is experiencing, especially the high degree of poverty. The summit must also contribute toward the democratization of Haiti, which presupposes an end to the military dictatorship and the return of Jean Bertrand Aristide to the presidency.

Regarding the Miami meeting, we are concerned about Cuba's absence due to the veto of the U.S. Government, which is hosting the meeting. Such a decision is not compatible with the efforts of rapprochement that are being made in many parts of the world, and it maintains an atmosphere on our continent that is completely out of time and place with the Cold War that has now been overcome.

In any case, this is an excellent occasion for Brazil's main opposition force, the PT—which has a real possibility of gaining control of government on 1 January 1995—to explain how it views our position in the world. The main problem that is being experienced today in Brazilian foreign policy is the absence—for more than 15 years—of a national development project.

In addition to the fact that profound internal changes have occurred in that period of time, we have also had transformations in the international situation. The end of the Soviet Union and the collapse of the Socialist countries, symbolized by the fall of the Berlin Wall, have altered, with the end of the Cold War, the relations between international forces. But the world economy has also suffered very important transformations with the emergence of three [as published] great focal points: megamarkets and very large productive systems, and this has accelerated what many have called the "globalization" of the economy.

The social and economic problems that these blocs are facing within themselves (unemployment, racism, and the advance of the extreme right); the economic situation in many areas of the "southern" part of the world; and the serious crises that the former Socialist countries and many areas of Africa are experiencing, permit us to talk about a new international (dis)order that is under way. The world is experiencing a period of transition and it is not known how it will end. It will be very important to take this into account when a new foreign policy is formulated for Brazil.

Our country must seek the implementation of a new economic order that will eliminate the trade and financial blackmail that the developed countries impose on a large part of the world, and this must be done directly or through international organizations. We need to democratize international relations by reforming the United Nations, especially its Security Council, which was created 50 years ago when the world's problems were of another type and quite different from the current ones.

Brazil's opening up to the world does not mean that we do not have priorities for the next few years. Latin America, especially South America, is the top priority. To strengthen, correct, and expand Mercosur [Common

Market of the South] is an important goal that can accelerate an integration process that will include all of South America through the creation of a free trade zone in the subcontinent. This process is of fundamental importance in achieving more balanced relations with the United States and the EU.

Brazil must seek to establish more open-minded relations with such countries as China, India, Russia, and South Africa, and especially with the latter country, which is now entering a new era. They are countries that cannot be absorbed, as is the case with Brazil, by the current blocs; and they also have economic potential and an international dimension and bearing that are sufficiently important for the implementation of common actions in the economic sphere, in specific or more extensive political interventions, and in scientific-technical cooperation, etc.

Within the next 10 years, Brazil will finally have to participate in international initiatives or take them itself, in the fields of human rights, preservation of the environment, and in the achievement of a more just economic order, especially in the case of a new confrontation pertaining to social and labor matters at the international level.

Strengthening national sovereignty and the implementation of national development projects in our continent are not incompatible with a policy of continental integration. On the contrary, the national projects can and must be made possible through a courageous and decided integration policy that will make the never-forgotten dream of Simon Bolivar come true on the eve of the 21st century.

Campaign, Program Coordinators Profiled

94SM0353A Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 May 94 p 1-6

[Article by Lucio Vaz: "Factions Divide Campaign Leadership"; followed by an interview with Wander Bueno do Prado, Lula's private secretary, by Claudia Trevisan, place and date not given: "Adviser To Lula Since 1981"; paragraphs in italics as published]

[Text] Brasilia—Most of them are from Sao Paulo, have never held elective office, and participated in left-wing movements over the past two decades. Four were once guerrilla fighters. They are the 13 individuals forming Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's campaign team, and they represent the range of factions constituting the PT [Workers Party].

There are only two congressmen in the group, most of whose members are intellectuals or party leaders. Deputies in the party comment that the leadership is in the hands of "voteless" people.

The group includes a businessman who is not a member of the PT: Oded Grajew. He is active in civil engineering and advertising. He collected suggestions from businessmen for the program. Now he is going to collect contributions from businessmen.

The party presidency is held by State Deputy Ruy Falcao (Sao Paulo), a leader of the party's left wing. He participated in the armed struggle against the military regime as a member of the VAR [Revolutionary Armed Vanguard]-Palmares.

Falcao does not like to talk about that experience. "What is the point of that now? The amnesty erased all that," he says. Tried under five articles of the National Security Law, he spent three years in prison.

Coordination of the campaign will be divided among Falcao, Luiz Eduardo Greenhalgh, and Deputy Aloizio Mercadante (Sao Paulo). Greenhalgh represents the party's extreme left wing, while Mercadante is closer to the center. He is tipped to be Lula's minister of finance.

Drafting of the government program will be coordinated by Marco Aurelio Garcia, an intellectual who has great influence on Lula and who is associated with the center group.

Also participating in the coordination are Joao Machado and Cesar Benjamin, who represent the left wing. Benjamin stirred up controversy by advocating a fourfold increase in the Armed Forces budget.

The alliances in the states are important in getting Lula elected, and they will be monitored by Gilberto Carvalho, the party's secretary general. A professor of philosophy linked to the progressive wing of the Catholic Church, he has never held elective office. He has been a party leader for four years.

The PT's advertising in the media is in the hands of the party's most radical leader, Markus Sokol of the faction known as In the PT Struggle. At the party convention, he advocated suspending payment of the foreign debt.

The official campaign treasurer will be Tatau Godinho, an English professor without much experience as a treasurer. She hopes to collect a large amount of money from the party's approximately 100,000 members, but is also depending on contributions from businessmen.

The group also has two intellectuals acting as advisers to Lula: Paulo Vanucchi and Amilton Pereira. Both participated in the armed struggle. Clara Ant is writing an account of the Caravan of Citizenship.

Lula's Campaign Team

Ruy Falcao, 50 Years of Age
Position: Campaign coordinator.
Faction: Hour of Truth (Leftist Coordination).
Career: Native of Minas Gerais. Journalist and state deputy (Sao Paulo) with 12,686 votes (second alternate). Participated in the armed struggle against the military regime as a member of VAR-Palmares. Was a member of the organization's support group. Arrested in 1970, he

was tried under five articles of the National Security Law and sentenced to one and a half years in prison, but served three years. Was a journalist from 1963 to 1988. Becomes the PT's president as a result of Lula's candidacy.

Joao Machado, 40 Years of Age
Position: Coordinator of government program.
Faction: Socialist Democracy.
Career: A native of Minas Gerais and an economist, he has never held elective office. Founder of EM TEMPO, the principal (but small) left-wing newspaper during the 1970's. Participated in resisting the military dictatorship. Founder of Socialist Democracy.

Clara Ant, 50 Years of Age
Position: Coordinates Lula's caravans.
Faction: Unity in Struggle.
Career: Native of Sao Paulo, architect, and former state deputy. Once a member of the most radical group in the PT, she is now a moderate. Linked to the party's women's and youth movements. Prepares for Lula's caravans by keeping the team informed of the characteristics of municipalities to be visited. After those visits, she writes a report on the caravan.

Aloizio Mercadante, 39 Years of Age
Position: Campaign coordinator.
Faction: Coordination.
Career: Native of Sao Paulo, economist, and federal deputy (Sao Paulo) with 120,000 votes. A former adviser to the CUT [Sole Workers Center] on economic matters, he coordinated the drafting of Lula's economic platform in the 1989 campaign. Elected deputy with Lula's support. He is the economist most trusted by the PT candidate. Tipped to be minister of finance in the PT administration. One of the campaign's three coordinators.

Gilberto Carvalho, 43 Years of Age
Position: Coordinator of electoral alliances.
Faction: Coordination.
Career: Native of Parana, philosophy professor, and secretary general of the PT. Linked to the progressive church, he is a former seminarian. Participated in the movement to penetrate labor circles. Worked as a welder from 1974 to 1984. Secretary of Workers Pastoral in 1985. Received 25,000 votes in his bid to become federal deputy in 1986 but was not elected.

Markus Sokol, 40 Years of Age
Position: Coordinator of communications.
Faction: In the PT Struggle.
Career: A native of Sao Paulo and a teacher, he has never held elective office. Member of In the PT Struggle. Leader of the PT's extreme left wing. Is part of the left-wing movement's bureaucracy. Prominent in defending radical theses at plenary meetings. Proposed suspending payment of the foreign debt. The PT's secretary of communications.

Luiz Eduardo Greenhalgh, 47 Years of Age
Position: Campaign coordinator.
Faction: In the PT Struggle.
Career: Native of Sao Paulo, attorney, and former deputy mayor of Sao Paulo. Member of In the PT Struggle. Distinguished himself as defense attorney for some of the country's political prisoners. Linked to the progressive church. As deputy mayor, he was accused by Ronaldo Caiado of accepting a check from the Lubeca firm, a public utility company hired by the City of Sao Paulo. Leader of the extreme left-wing faction, the most radical faction in the PT. One of Lula's three campaign coordinators.

Amilton Pereira, 46 Years of Age
Position: Coordinates Lula's agenda.
Faction: Hour of Truth.
Career: A native of Goias and a poet, he has never held elective office. Also known as "Pedro Tierra." A former member of the National Liberating Alliance, he participated in the armed struggle as a member of the secondarist movement. Was arrested and exiled by the military regime. An intellectual with considerable influence on Lula.

Cesar Benjamin Queiroz, 37 Years of Age
Position: Coordinator of government program.
Faction: Leftist Coordination.
Career: A native of Rio de Janeiro, he has never held elective office. A former member of MR-8 [8 October Revolutionary Movement], he participated in the armed struggle through the secondarist movement. Arrested at the age of 17 years. On being released, he went into exile in Sweden. Proposed that the Armed Forces budget be increased fourfold.

Tatau Godinho, 38 Years of Age
Position: Campaign treasurer.
Faction: Socialist Democracy.
Career: A native of Minas Gerais and an English professor, she has never held elective office. Ran for federal deputy in 1990, receiving 13,000 votes. She will be Lula's campaign treasurer. Plans to collect funds in three ways: contributions from members, fund drives among specific groups, and contributions from individuals and legal entities (businesses).

Marco Aurelio Garcia, 50 Years of Age
Position: Coordinator of government program.
Faction: Coordination.
Career: A native of Rio Grande do Sul and a professor at Unicamp [Campinas State University], he has never held elective office. The PT's secretary of international relations. He is the intellectual closest to Lula. Tipped to be minister-chief of the Civilian Household.

Paulo Vanucchi, 44 Years of Age
Position: No specific function.
Faction: Independent.
Career: A native of Sao Paulo and an economist, he has never held elective office. A former member of the ALN [National Liberating Alliance], he participated in the

armed struggle. Was arrested and exiled by the military regime. Having no specific function in the campaign, he is there to fill in where needed. An intellectual respected by all factions, he is one of Lula's chief advisers.

Oded Grajew, 49 Years of Age
Position: To raise funds in the business community.
Faction: Is not a member of the party.
Career: A native of Sao Paulo and an engineer, he has never held elective office. As a businessman, his fields are civil engineering and advertising. He is the party's contact with the business community, presenting the party's proposals and receiving suggestions from the businessmen.

Adviser With Lula Since 1981

Wander Bueno do Prado, 41, has been an adviser to Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva longer than anyone. "I know Lula better than I know my brother," Prado told FOLHA DE SAO PAULO.

A sociologist and former metalworker, Prado went to work for Lula in 1981. He has been his private secretary since that time. He takes care of Lula's agenda and organizes the candidate's life.

He left that position only from 1990 to 1992, when he coordinated the PT's parallel government (established following the defeat in the 1989 presidential election). He returned in 1993 to organize the caravans of citizenship and participate in the campaign.

[Trevisan] How did you come to work for Lula?

[Prado] I knew Lula from the union movement, but I was more closely associated with his brother, Frei Chico.

In 1981, I was teaching a few classes and looking for a job. I had left my job at the ZF of Brazil metallurgical firm the year before. (He completed his sociology course at the Santo Andre Foundation in Sao Paulo's ABC [Santo Andre, Sao Bernardo do Campo, and Sao Caetano do Sul industrial area] in 1981.)

Lula was looking for someone to handle his agenda during the 1982 gubernatorial campaign in Sao Paulo. Frei Chico recommended me, and I accepted.

[Trevisan] What was the most difficult political moment you witnessed in Lula's career?

[Prado] His defeat in the 1982 elections.

[Trevisan] Was it worse than his defeat by Fernando Collor in the 1989 presidential election?

[Prado] Much worse. The reason was the number of people we managed to attract and then the small number of votes we received in the end. (Franco Montoro won the election, and Lula ended up in fourth place.)

It was about six months before he recovered. The PT had been established in 1980, and the defeat caused doubts about the party's viability.

Lula received a very large number of votes in 1989, and it became clear to us that it would be difficult to win the presidency.

[Trevisan] How often do you talk to Lula?

[Prado] Almost every day, either by telephone or in person.

[Trevisan] I see that you have a scrambler (a device used to prevent telephone wiretapping). Do you use it when talking to Lula?

[Prado] I bought it last year, but I have never used it. When we talk about important things, we do so in person.

[Trevisan] To what faction in the PT do you belong?

[Prado] You will have to believe me. I have never belonged to any faction, and I have never held a position of leadership in the party.

I have always felt that holding office in the PT would be incompatible with a position in which I am so close to the party president.

Russia Signs Accord To Exchange Military Attaches

PY0706003694 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Report by correspondent Antonia Marcia Vale from Belem, Para State]

[Text] Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Mamedov have signed an agreement to exchange military attaches between the two countries. Mamedov, who is attending the 24th OAS General Assembly as an observer, stated that the agreement does not entail any form of ideological agreement, but rather stems from mutually advantageous relations.

Mamedov said Russia and Brazil are following the same path toward promoting democratization in the world. He described Brazil as a priority partner for Russia. He noted that the agreement will pave the way for implementing several cooperation projects between the Russian and Brazilian Armed Forces, in addition to promoting the transfer of technology.

The agreement may also be instrumental in improving the bilateral trade balance, which last year stood at $300 million. Foreign Ministry experts consider this figure to be well below the potential for trade between the two countries. Foreign Minister Amorim will visit the Russian Federation in December to sign new agreements.

Correction to Former Peasant Leader Views Land Problems

PY0606150694

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Former Peasant Leader Inverviewed on Land Porblems," published in the 6 June Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 56:

Column one, eighth paragraph, fourth sentence make read: ...abandon their lots for lack of training and the tools to work them.... (rewording for clarity)

Colombia

Former Candidate Backs Samper in Runoff

FA0706042594 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Canal A Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Report by Ivan Dario Parra; from the "Cripton Newscast"]

[Text] Speaking next to the most beautiful bay in the Americas in the city of Santa Marta, General Miguel Alfredo Maza Marquez, former presidential candidate for the National Civic Consensus, has told his fellow countrymen that Ernesto Samper Pizano and running mate Humberto De La Calle Lombana comprise the best presidential ticket for progress in the Atlantic coast region. According to the former director of the Administrative Department of Security [DAS], the recovery of the agriculture and livestock industries and an effective security plan are fundamental issues in achieving real progress for coastal residents.

[Begin Mazo recording] With Ernesto Samper, we will find solutions to the enormous problems faced by coastal residents. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Ernesto Samper announced here that, if he is elected president in the 19 June runoff, he will create a presidential advisory board for the coastal region.

[Begin Samper recording] The completion of the Caribbean and Magdalena River trunk lines; the completion of roads that will open links to the Caribbean interior; the development of new electric power projects, such as the Barranquilla thermoelectric project; the completion of the (Urral) project; and the work to provide La Guajira Department with a gas supply system—all of these projects will be coordinated by a presidential advisory board for the Caribbean and Atlantic coastal region. [end recording]

Commissioner Admits Police Violate Human Rights

PA0606144294 Paris AFP in Spanish 0345 GMT 3 Jun 94

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 2 Jun (AFP)—National Police Commissioner Alonso Salamanca has admitted that police have violated human rights. He requested today that one official and two agents be investigated for torturing a union member.

In the first action he has taken as national police commissioner—a newly created post—Salamanca asked the local police commander to file charges against Captain Wilson Laverde and agents Cesar Cacua and Pedro Tangarife. According to a preliminary investigation, Laverde, Cacua, and Tangarife tortured union leader Luis Antonio Tellez physically and psychologically.

Tellez and his partner Aida Luz Martinez had been arrested for distributing subversive literature and throwing explosive devices to disturb public order during a march to commemorate Labor Day on 1 May.

According to the commissioner, the police tortured Tellez physically and psychologically to obtain a confession that was not a true assessment of the activities in which he was involved.

Criticizing the incident, Salamanca said this violation constitutes a serious attack against the validity of human rights and the image of the institution. Salamanca added that his office will follow very closely the progress of the investigation to be initiated by the local police commander.

The incident was revealed at a time the government is conducting a thorough review of human rights in order to improve the country's image before the international community. As part of this campaign, the government has scheduled a meeting with its 14 ambassadors in Europe on 9 June.

Paraguay

Foreign Minister Meets Argentine Over Dam Incident

PY0606191994 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 4 Jun 94 p 19

[Text] Foreign Minister Luis Maria Ramirez Boettner on 3 June recognized that Paraguayan settlers are having problems as a result of the filling of the Yacyreta hydroelectric dam. The minister said, however, that those problems are not reason enough to stage an aggression such as the one that occurred in Encarnacion in the afternoon of 2 June. During the incident a crowd threatened an Argentine official working for the Yacyreta Binational Entity [EBY] and then pushed his car into the river.

Ramirez Boettner met Raul Enrique Justo, minister adviser to the Argentine Embassy in Paraguay, at 13:25 on 3 June. Justo is temporarily heading the Argentine mission for Ambassador Raul Eduardo Carignano, who traveled to Santa Fe Province the day of the incident.

Justo conveyed to Ramirez Boettner the Argentine "concern" over the 2 June incident. The foreign minister said he shares Argentina's concern and promised to do his

utmost to solve the social situation that is at a boiling point in the Encarnacion area.

The foreign minister on 3 June received a "top secret" [preceding two words in English] report from EBY's Paraguayan director, Antonio Adam Nill, about the incident staged by settlers. Ramirez Boettner did not want to elaborate on the document's contents, but said it was a report on what happened on 2 June. "We will study it in order to solve the problem," he added.

The foreign minister called on settlers to review their decision to prevent the entry of all Argentine and Paraguayan officials to the area until a solution is found because their position closes the possibilities of a dialogue.

Technical sources warned that Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and World Bank technicians have expressed a very lukewarm position regarding the social problems of those affected by the dam's filling, adding that they even lean toward the Argentine position, which seeks to fill the dam at any cost.

Workers and Relocations

The foreign minister conveyed to the Argentine Foreign Ministry, through Raul Enrique Justo, its concern about the situation of workers and the relocation of settlers living on Parana River islands because they also must be relocated and provided with basic services.

Regarding this point the Argentine foreign official said: "I don't have all the information at hand, but I will transmit the concern to my government and we will continue working to resolve these problems."

The two countries' Foreign Ministries promised to be in permanent contact to seek a quick solution to the problem raised by settlers and the lack of compensation pay. On 3 June, Ramirez Boettner traveled to Belem do Para to participate in the 24th OAS ordinary session that will meet from 6 to 11 June.

Congressional Committee To Investigate Oviedo

PY0606233894 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 6 Jun 94 p 2

[Text] On 6 June most of the members of the Congressional Investigating Committee on Illegal Activities (CBII) agreed to begin an in-depth investigation of the many reports of Army Commander General Lino Oviedo's involvement in political-partisan activities.

By the time this afternoon daily went to press, the CBII was getting ready to formally discuss the issue. The request for the CBII to step in came from Deputies Sergio Lopez of the PLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party] and Walter Bower of the Colorado Party Reconciliation Movement. The report that the two deputies prepared on the repeated charges against Gen. Oviedo will be submitted at today's session of the CBII.

Should it be duly proven that the Army commander has violated the Constitution, the CBII will submit its findings to the courts so that Gen. Oviedo can be tried, and will also ask the national executive branch to remove and retire the general, according to National Encounter Deputy Luis Alberto Mauro.

The CBII is controlled by the opposition, which has been constantly criticizing Gen. Oviedo's activities, and by the Colorado Party, which is now bitterly complaining about the role Oviedo is playing in the party's internal power struggle.

Committee members Basilio Nikiporoff, Armando Espinola, Fernando Pfannl, Hermes Rafael Saguier, and Luis Alberto Mauro belong to the opposition; Carlos Romero Pereira and Walter Bower belong to the Argana faction of the Colorado Party; and Luis Becker, who recently called Oviedo "little Stroessner," and "gangsters' protector," belongs to the pro-government faction of the Colorado Party.

Bearing this background in mind, it is certain that the majority of the CBII members will be in favor of investigating Gen. Oviedo. The only pro-government legislator who could oppose this decision would be Senator Emilio Cubas Grau.

Deputy Mauro stated that when last year CBII members accused Oviedo of meddling in politics "we were criticized and told that our attitude was antimilitary. It appears, however, that many members of the various Colorado Party factions now share our position."

He concluded: "This proves that our criticisms are objective, and not prompted by antimilitary feelings."

Fernandez To Campaign for ANR Party Presidency

PY0606195794 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 4 Jun 94 p 6

[Text] Atilio R. Fernandez, former presidential election campaign director, on 3 June presented his government program within the framework of his campaign to head the ANR [National Republican Association—Colorado Party]. His speech started with a call "to civilian Colorados and military Colorados." The rally was attended by about 4,000 people, most of them top state officials and departmental and municipal authorities.

Many well-known leaders of the so-called "Stroessnerist militant faction" [former dictator Alfredo Stroessner's supporters], including Ramon Enrique Reverchon and Juan Jose Benitez Rickman, attended the rally.

The night's most noticeable item, without a doubt, was the large number of posters saying "Oviedo '98" [General Lino Oviedo for president in 1998], which was the exclusive responsibility of Guaira Governor Rodolfo Max Friedmann, according to the organizers. Eight of the total of 12 Colorado governors attended the meeting.

The event was opened by campaign spokesman and former Education Minister Horacio Galeano Perrone. After talking about the Colorado Party's internal divisions and its history, Galeano Perrone urged Colorado followers to work for unity without exclusions. At the end of his speech, Galeano Perrone emphasized that the faction headed by Fernandez did not accept the division between "military and civilians" and made an ardent call for unity within the party, "accepting the past with its lights and shadows."

Several sections of his speech were dedicated to lashing out at other internal movements despite his call for unity.

Among those attending were Paul Sarubbi and Gustavo Pedrozo and Deputies Bernardino Cano Radil and Conrado Pappalardo. The presence of Ramon Duarte Vera, the controversial former police chief during the Stroessner administration, also was noteworthy.

Peru

Polls Predict Fujimori, Perez de Cuellar Tie

PY0606182094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1902 GMT 5 Jun 94

[Text] Lima, 5 Jun (EFE)—An opinion poll that was released in Lima on 5 June shows that Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori and former UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar would tie at presidential runoff elections if they were held right now.

The metropolitan daily EXPRESO published the results of the opinion poll conducted by Datum, a private company. The poll shows that in the event of runoff elections, and should Fujimori and Perez de Cuellar run for president, Fujimori would get 43.8 percent of the votes and Perez de Cuellar would get 42.8 percent. Datum feels that "technically" these figures should be considered a "tie."

The opinion poll shows that during the first electoral round neither candidate would obtain 50 percent plus one vote. The current president would get 39.9 percent and the former UN secretary general would get 32.2 percent.

Peruvian presidential and legislative elections are scheduled for April 1995.

Shining Path Attempts To Murder Former President

PY0606183094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1321 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] Lima, 6 Jun (EFE)—The Lima daily EXPRESO reported on 6 June that the police have thwarted an attempt by the maoist Shining Path [SL] gang to kill former Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry (1980-1985).

EXPRESO reported that a man known as "Comrade Jonas" was arrested some 100 meters from the podium from which Belaunde Terry was addressing a rally at the main square in Huaraz, capital of Ancash Department in the northern Andean region. The arrested man was carrying a long-range weapon fitted with a silencer.

"Comrade Jonas" allegedly confessed that his mission was to "eliminate" the leaders of Popular Action, the party that Belaunde Terry founded and leads.

The police reported that three other SL members were arrested in Yungay, also in Ancash Department.

According to EXPRESO "Comrade Jonas" was involved in the murder of two Polish priests in May 1993 in Pariacoto, Ancash Department.

Police Arrest Ayacucho Shining Path Leader

PY0606194994 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Report by Mario Cueto Cardenas from Huamanga, Ayacucho]

[Excerpt] National Police from the 9th Subregion have arrested Comrade Maria, who was in charge of organizing the Shining Path local committee in Ayacucho. Police said Comrade Maria and two other terrorists will be presented to the media in the next few days.

Police said these captures allowed the deactivation of future actions against local officials. This is why police distributed special instructions for personal security and invited officials to carry out target practice with short- and long-range weapons. [passage omitted]

Air Force Commander Resigns; Replacement Named

PY0606164794 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1604 GMT 6 Jun 94

[Text] Lima, 6 Jun (EFE)—Peruvian Air Force (FAP) commander General Jose Nadal Paiva has resigned suddenly. General Enrique Astete replaced him as the FAP commander today.

Nadal submitted his resignation just as the U.S. Government halted the supply of radar obtained information to the FAP for use in the struggle against drug trafficking. According to military sources, the two are in no way connected.

The same sources stated that the Air Force commander resigned for "very personal reasons." Other sources stated that he resigned for health reasons.

Nadal Paiva should have retired, due to his age, in 1993 but continued following a decision by Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori, who is also commander in chief of the Armed Forces by a mandate of the Constitution.

The new FAP commander was the Air Force chief of staff and prior to that director of military operations and attache at the Peruvian Embassy in the United States.

Uruguay

Abreu To Sign Salto Grande Protocols

PY0606234194 Montevideo LA MANANA in Spanish 3 Jun 94 p 3

[Text] Uruguayan Foreign Minister Sergio Abreu traveled to Buenos Aires this morning to sign protocols on the settlement in advance of an outstanding debt on the construction of the Salto Grande dam, the first binational integration project in Latin America.

The signing of the protocols is especially important because it will allow the two countries to settle in advance with foreign investors their outstanding debt, and will untie the huge funds—totaling $1 million per day—that are supplied by electric energy sales.

The foreign minister and Political Affairs Director Carlos Gianelli boarded an airplane at 0840 today.

The signing ceremony will be carried out at the Argentine Foreign Ministry, with the attendance of Salto Grande Joint Technical Commission members and officials from the electric power network organizations of the two countries.

According to information leaked at the Foreign Ministry, after this settlement Uruguay will have more than $40 million per year available for allocation to the financing of agro-industrial, fishing, tourism, and social development projects.

In addition to the signing ceremony, the foreign minister will review the progress achieved in the studies being conducted to build the Salto Grande sluices and channels, which will allow navigation on the Uruguay River and the development of Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay, the three countries through which this river flows.

It is hoped that by allowing navigation on the entire course of the Uruguay River, it will be possible to carry more than 40 million metric tons of cargo at substantially lower prices than those being charged by the current means of transportation.

Venezuela

Governor Threatens To Use Military Against Strike

PA0706041594 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Jun 94

[From the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] Caracas Governor Asdrubal Aguiar has threatened to use the Armed Forces if a transportation stoppage leaves Caracas without this public service. He has said if the service is interrupted, the executive will have no other recourse but to implement measures to deal with such a contingency. The transportation sector cannot be permitted to defend its own rights by harming the community, which has already shown considerable tolerance to the increase in the cost of living.

Aguiar has said his office has been monitoring the situation between the mayor's office and Simon Lavera, president of the Central Federation of Roving and Terminal-Based Passenger Vehicles, regarding fares. Aguiar has announced that willingly or unwillingly, the government will prevent the strike with the resources as provided by the de jure state so the rest of the community will not be harmed.

[Begin Aguiar recording] We do not have to come up with emergency measures, which already exist, as do plans utilizing the Armed Forces and National Guard to tend to these situations. It will also be necessary to devise complementary measures to prevent any provocation or pressure. We will study these measures and be prepared to implement them. [end recording]

Mentioning the high crime rate, Aguiar expressed favor over organizational measures and announced the National Guard's cooperation to act in the so-called security areas, while the police would protect the people with squad cars and motorcycles.

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